

## Fire fighters board rig as 15-mile oil slick changes course

Firefighters yesterday boarded the Bravo oil platform in the North Sea and found the structure undamaged. The oil was still gushing oil into the sea feeding an oil slick 15 miles long and up to three miles wide. A barge will be

brought alongside to provide the base for capping the well. It could take two days to complete the operation; an executive said he believed it would be successful. The whole Ekofisk field has been ordered shut down because of the fire hazard.

## Norway halts production because of fire risk

Roger Vielroye  
Correspondent  
A giant pipeline barge was  
night being manoeuvred  
the edge of a 15-mile  
oil slick to get alongside  
stricken Bravo oil produc-  
platform and provide the  
for the first attempt to  
off a well that has been  
up to 4,000 tons of oil  
into the sea since Friday.

soon as the vessel is se-  
alongside the platform  
forms part of the Ekofisk  
field in the Norwegian  
of the North Sea, two  
rs from the Red Adair  
ighting team from  
rica will attempt to cap  
well in the day. Mr Boots  
sen and Mr Richard Harte,  
two fire fighters, had  
the platform from a

helicopter to inspect the  
damage. They discovered that  
the blow-out had not damaged the  
structure of the steel platform and  
after receiving their report  
Mr Bob Roberts, Phillips ex-  
vice-president, said: "I  
believe now that the capping  
will be successful."

Before work can begin equip-  
ment must be loaded from the  
piping barge *Chion* onto the  
platform to enable the team to  
clean up the area around the  
well. The barge will provide the  
generators on the Bravo plat-  
form have been shut down since  
the blow-out on Friday. Accord-  
ing to Phillips it could take up  
two days to complete the cap-  
ping operation, particularly if  
weather conditions deteriorate.

Meanwhile the Norwegian  
Government has ordered  
Phillips, the American based oil  
company responsible for the

development and operation of the  
Ekofisk oilfield, to shut  
down all oil production activities.  
This will mean a temporary  
end to deliveries of oil into the  
Teesside terminal through a 200-mile long pipe-

line. The order to shut down the  
whole field, capable of providing  
the equivalent of one million  
barrels of oil a day, was because  
of the gusher of oil, mud and sand  
being blown by the wind into  
the vicinity of other platforms  
in the area and producing a  
serious fire hazard.

The oil slick produced by the  
blow-out is now 15 miles long  
and between two and three  
miles wide. It started to drift  
towards the Norwegian coast,  
but a change in the wind has  
driven much of the oil back  
towards the platform. Phillips  
says the huge floating pool of  
oil is now moving southwards

very slowly. A decision not to use chemicals to disperse the slick has  
been taken by the Norwegian  
Government because of concern  
about the effect of such action  
on marine life. Instead an  
attempt will be made to contain  
the slick with long booms. A  
fleet of skimmers is steaming  
from Stavanger to suck up the  
oil and transfer it to waiting  
tankers.

About three kilometres of  
booms should be around the  
slick by this morning and the  
skimmers should be able to re-  
move about 1,000 tons of oil a  
day, if the weather does not  
deteriorate. Providing the oil  
flow is stopped within the next  
two days and bad weather does  
not break up the slick, the skim-  
mers could clean up the spill  
within 10 days, Phillips said  
yesterday.

If the attempt to cap the well  
fails Phillips may have to con-  
sider drilling another well in  
the area to relieve the pres-  
sure. This could take up to six  
weeks and oil would continue to  
spill into the sea while it was  
being drilled.

Three boats from Aberdeen  
loaded with chemical dispersants  
part of Britain's coastal clean-  
up fleet are standing by near  
the disaster area and will be  
brought into use if the Norwegian  
Government decides that the slick  
cannot contain the slick. A  
further six vessels are standing  
in the Shetlands to move  
into Norwegian waters if re-  
quested.

The Seaway Falcon has been pour-  
ing water over the rig since  
Friday night and another vessel  
from the British sector, British  
Petroleum's Forties Kiwi, is also  
standing by.

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martial law, three other big  
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Mr Simon Jenkins: "Extra-  
ordinary loyalty of readers."

## Cultural gap warning on paper merger

By David Walker

Disappearance of the *Evening Standard* would leave a yawning gap in the political and cultural life of London, Mr Simon Jenkins, the editor, said yesterday. There was a large amount of highbrow advertising, liaison interests of his newspaper's one million readers would not be covered.

Commenting on reports that his newspaper's tide is to be sold by the Beaverbrook group

to Associated Newspapers and that the *Evening Standard* and the *Evening News* are to merge,

Mr Jenkins emphasized his paper's distinctiveness.

"Over the past 10 years it has  
managed to work its way  
under the skin of the capital in  
a way no paper has ever managed  
before. Over the past few

days I have been continually  
ringed up by people saying the  
*Evening Standard* cannot go."

He added that the *Standard*  
and the *News* since it com-  
pleted its merger in March, the  
headlands of one were the West  
End and north London, its  
readers middle-class and active  
leisure seekers. The *News* was the  
working-class London paper.

Mr Jenkins, aged 34, became  
editor of the newspaper five  
months ago in succession to Mr  
Charles Wimour, now an exec-  
utive of Beaverbrook News-  
papers.

Continued on page 2 col 1

## Millions urged to join march after more arrests in Pakistan

From Richard Wigg

Rawalpindi, April 24

Reacting within hours to the  
early morning arrest of more of  
its leaders, the opposition PNA  
in North-West Frontier called for a "long march" on the Prime Minister's house in Islamabad, the capital.

The call was issued by a  
newly constituted PNA leadership  
after the Government of  
Mr Bhutto had detained about  
40 more of the movement's  
officials.

Among those arrested were  
Navabzai Nasrullah Khan, the  
acting chairman, and Mr Waiz  
Ali, the acting secretary-  
general, who had yesterday got  
a statement from the Government  
to the effect that the movement  
was "high treason" and a  
"conspiracy" against the  
armed forces and the people.

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martial law, three other big  
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## Shell expected to put 3p on petrol prices

Petrol prices at the pump are expected to go up by 3p a gallon today. The Shell group announced of another round of increases in the price of all oil products will be followed by Esso and British Petroleum later in the week. The Shell application for a 2.5p a gallon across the board rise—based on higher crude oil import costs—was accepted by

## HOME NEWS

# Cabinet ministers hint at level of wage increases sought by Government for coming year

By Paul Rouse

Labour Editor

Figures on the Government's desired rate of wage increases for the coming year emerged over the weekend as Cabinet ministers increased their efforts to sustain trade union confidence in the social contract.

Mr Healey, the Chancellor, told the shopworkers' conference in Scarborough that his forecast of a 13 per cent rate of inflation at the end of the year was based on an assumption that earnings did not rise into double figures in the next 12 months. Dr Owen, the Foreign Secretary, spoke of rises of 8 to 9 per cent, when he addressed a Labour Party gathering at Castleford, West Yorkshire.

Those are the first public indications by senior ministers of the level at which the Cabinet wants to pitch phase three of the incomes policy. Previously the Government had talked only of the need to maintain the social contract and its commitment to voluntary wage restraint for a third year when the present powers expire on July 31.

Mr Len Murray, general secretary of the TUC, touched on the sensitive issue of wage controls on the *Weekend World* television programme yesterday, arguing that union members "must be given a chance to say, voluntarily, 'We will not push beyond certain limits'".

He did not say what those limits were, but rejected the elastic provisions of the original social contract that allowed the strong to win rises in excess of 30 per cent.

"I think we would be right through the ceiling, I believe, if we went back to 74-75. If we lost all the gains we have made in the past two years by the sacrifices of our own people, the pound would probably go for a Burton, which

would mean that the price of our imports would go up, and prices would rocket. I believe it would have an effect on unemployment... it is something nobody wants to contemplate."

Soundings among union leaders suggest that they are seeking a policy without upper limits. The most commonly expressed view among TUC negotiators is that there should be an understanding with the Government on guidelines that would aim to restrict the pay ambitions of trade unionists while returning to them an ele-

Leading article, page 17

## Social contract survives attack at Wales TUC

From Tim Jones

Labour Reporter

Tenby

The social contract has emerged intact after a bad battering at the Wales TUC. The South Wales miners, like their colleagues at the Scottish TUC, faced the assault with warnings to the Government that it risked its special relationship with the movement by seeking a further year of wage restraint.

But the decision taken at the conference on Saturday was not conclusive as many unions, including the Transport and General Workers' Union (TGWU), the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers and the Electrical, Electronic, Telecommunications and Plumbing Union abstained. Mr Jack Jones, general secretary of the TGWU said it would wait until its own conference had taken a decision.

The result of a motion that demanded the removal of pay restrictions was 294,800 against 173,700 for, with 322,200 abstentions. Mr Callaghan had told the delegates on Friday that a return to a wages freeze for all would lead to more unemployment and higher prices.

Mr Emyr Williams, president of the South Wales area of the National Union of Mineworkers, said he was certain that union conferences would declare the social contract dead. The working class, he maintained, wanted a break with "this insipid legislation". He accused the Government of having done nothing fundamental to reduce unemployment, prices or profits.

Mr Jones, speaking as a delegate, defended the social contract while emphasizing that the movement would press for import controls, more investment and a reversal of the "wrong trends of the last Budget".

He said it was not the social contract that people were criticizing but pay policy. "It is the approach to future pay negotiations that will need to be changed one way or another and not the social contract."

## Chancellor's warning on a pay explosion

Continued from page 1

the International Monetary Fund to keep money supply tightly in check.

The result, therefore, of failure would be increasing lack of credibility in the Government and a corresponding reduction in its chances of surviving a general election.

Sir Geoffrey Howe, QC, opposition spokesman on Treasury and economic affairs, said on Saturday that the conquest of inflation would be a long, hard task, adding that it would not go away on a change of government.

He was not suggesting that the present Government would remain in office, but that inflation would not be cured by any "coup de theatre", certainly not by an enthusiastic embrace of free collective bargaining if that was taken to mean a reversal to an irresponsible "free for all".

In an "open letter" on Saturday to the chairman of the trade union advisory committee of the East Surrey Conservative Association, he implied that the next Conservative Government

would have some form of wage restraint policy.

In his speech to the shopworkers' union on pay restraint Mr Healey said: "I do not underestimate the difficulty of reaching the right sort of agreement. It is going to be hell."

He left no doubt that the Government is looking for a formal third phase and a loosely defined understanding on future restraint, which appears increasingly to be favoured by some union leaders.

It was no good relying on vague expressions of good will, he said. That was tried 10 years ago and it melted away like Burton in the sun.

Mr Healey insisted on the need for 12-month intervals between settlements and added: "It would be fatal if the idea got around that after July 31 everyone is able to reopen the agreements already made. That would be the father and mother of all wage explosions. Stickling to the existing rules about phase two is a precondition for getting back to collective bargaining without disaster."

Leading article, page 17

Hugh Stephenson, page 21

## Journalists to fight merger of evening newspapers

Continued from page 1

He inherited what he calls the extraordinary loyalty of readers to the *Evening Standard*'s features and columnists and its progressive political stance on race and immigration and the conservation of London landmarks. Editorially the paper has tended to support the Conservative Party.

The philosophy of Mr Jenkins and his staff is best seen in the paper's campaigns on the capital's environment: the conservation of Piccadilly Circus, opening Somerset House to the public and on waste in London's local government.

The *Evening Standard* helps to sustain a part of the London theatre and book world with its literary and dramatic awards. Mr Jenkins concedes that the commercial success of many West End productions depends largely on the notice taken of them in the paper.

A facer of Mr Wintour's editorship to which Mr Jenkins is fully committed is a policy of recruiting young journalists and maturing them to the point where other Fleet Street newspapers make them attractive offers. Mr Jenkins said: "It is a tribute to the *Standard* that they are not attracted away. It would be a severe loss if the present editorial team we have were broken up."

Mr Jenkins is working as if no decision has been taken on the future of his paper. An emotional meeting of its journalists on Saturday was told by him of the importance of sticking together. He said: "The next event for the *Standard* is the next day's editorial conference, where we

shall set about producing a bloody good newspaper until such time as someone stops us."

Plans for a new London evening paper produced by Associated Newspapers have gone as far as the production of dummy copies.

Despite a warning by a section of the board of Beaverbrook that the *Standard* will prevent the sale of the *Evening Standard*, senior executives of Associated Newspapers said yesterday the paper had gone "a very long way".

The staff of the two newspapers intend to forestall any exchange of contracts. Journalists at the *Evening News* are to meet this morning to discuss the situation and that could disrupt production of early editions.

Tomorrow the fathers (chairmen) of the National Union of Journalists' chapels (office branches) in the Beaverbrook group and in Associated Newspapers hope to see Mr Hartley, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection. They want him to refer the proposed merger to the Monopolies Commission.

The printing unions employed by both groups have expressed concern at any loss of jobs and on Friday night production of the *Evening Express* was delayed until the management agreed to print a dummy that the *Standard* had been sold.

In the view of Associated Newspapers, there is no choice facing Beaverbrook. It has to sell the *Standard* to give the *Daily Express* and the *Sunday Express* any chance of survival. The quest of the Beaverbrook board for sources of finance to tide the company over its difficulties is said so far to have been fruitless.

## Tax evasion may be good for Britain, economist says

By Our Social Policy Correspondent

Tax avoidance and evasion may be good for Britain, according to a paper published today by the Institute of Economic Affairs.

The suggestion is made by Dr Barry Bracewell-Milnes, former economic director of the Confederation of British Industry, now studying tax systems at Erasmus University Rotterdam. His paper is one of several containing fierce criticisms of British taxes.

## Tory approves civil servants' TUC link

By Our Labour Editor

Mr James Prior, Opposition spokesman on employment, has said the proposed affiliation to the TUC of senior civil servants who advise Cabinet ministers "would not put at risk the independence and political impartiality of the Civil Service".

In a letter to the Association of First Division Civil Servants Mr Prior argues that joining the TUC will make the trade unions' central policymaking body more representative. He pledges that the new Tory government will seek "good and close relations" with organised labour.

Mr Prior was asked by Mr Norman Ellis, general secretary of the association, which

represents 10,000 senior civil servants, up to permanent secretary level, who would be the Conservative Party's view if his members agreed in a ballot this year to accept an executive recommendation to affiliate to the TUC.

In his reply Mr Prior said the Conservatives attached fundamental importance to an independent, non-political Civil Service loyal to any elected government.

Insofar as the association's affiliation to the TUC would give a voice in its counsels to a significant additional group of employees it is fair to say that your affiliation would strengthen the representativeness of the TUC, he said.

"We are happy to accept your assurance that if the member-

ship of the association decide to maintain its position of strict party political neutrality."

That was the position in several unions affiliated to the TUC, particularly public service ones, "and we see no reason why it should not be for your association too".

When Mr Ellis approached Mr Prior he said it was the firm intention of his executive to maintain the political neutrality of the Civil Service.

In a similar initiative last year the only other key Civil Service union outside the TUC, the 105,000-member Institution of Professional Civil Servants, voted at its annual conference to end nearly 60 years of isolation from the Labour movement.

## Two more deaths in Ulster make total of 56 this year

From Stewart Tander

Belfast

Two deaths in Northern Ireland at the weekend brought the total of people killed since the beginning of the year to 56. The first four months of last year produced 111 deaths.

An old age pensioner became the fifth man to die from sectarian violence in the past few days when gunmen attacked a Roman Catholic bar at Craigavon, co Armagh. Yesterday a man, aged 24, one of eight people injured in the attack, was seriously ill in hospital.

More than a hundred customers were in the Legatry Inn at closing time when two gunmen entered and opened fire with a pistol and a sub-machine gun. The dead man, aged 72, was hit in the head.

At about the same time an Army patrol in west Belfast shot and killed Mr Brendon O'Callaghan, aged 21, of Carrigtwohill Avenue, Lenadoon. The Army at first said that shots had been fired at the patrol, which returned the fire.

Later a spokesman said the patrol saw three men standing outside a bar in Stewartstown Road. One man was seen to cock a weapon and the patrol opened fire. The other men got away in a car.

Yesterday the Provisional IRA said that the dead man was one of a patrol set up to guard the streets of west Belfast against attacks from "loyalists".

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## Ex-champion wins regional crossword final

By Our Crossword Editor

The third of this year's seven regional finals in the Cuth Sack/Times national crossword championship took place in Birmingham yesterday and was attended by 115 finalists, including Dr John Sykes, who was national champion in the four years 1972-75 but did not compete last year.

Only six competitors completed all four puzzles without error, and Dr Sykes, editor of the Concise Oxford Dictionary, showed that his year's absence from the championship has done nothing to reduce his accuracy and speed by taking first place, and the title of Birmingham regional champion.

The runner-up was Mr Philip Meade, a civil servant, last year's West Bromwich champion. He scored 81 time bonus points and also qualifies for the national final in September.

Mrs Lindsay Ramsey, on behalf of Cuth Sack/Scotch Whisky, also presented prizes to Mr John Sparrow and Mr Wilfrid Miron, who were third and fourth with 79 and 75 time bonus points respectively. Fifth and sixth places were taken by Mr Roy Davies and Mr P. Jubb, with 63 and 45 time bonus points respectively.

Recalling Adam Smith's explanation in *The Wealth of Nations* of how the pursuit of self-interest in trade confers unintended benefit on others, he challenges the notion that the tax avoider necessarily shifts a burden on to his fellow taxpayers.

He argues that marginal losses of cash inflicted on the Exchequer will not necessarily be made good elsewhere but may simply cause the Government to spend less than it would otherwise. The losses

may be only apparent. Tax payment is not the only alternative to avoidance. The tax avoider might switch to another type of activity that would reduce rather than raise tax revenue.

His paper is welcomed in the same book by Lord Broughton of Soverby, the Labour peer and former Cabinet Minister, who was secretary of the Inland Revenue Staff Federation from 1922 to 1960.

The State of Taxation (IEA, 2 Lord North Street, London, SW1 3LB, £3).

Dr Bracewell-Milnes concludes that the only way to

reduce tax avoidance without causing people to work or save less is to reduce the highest rates of tax, especially those on investment income and capital transfers.

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## ME NEWS

## More Heathrow flights start away but end strike not in sight

Labour Editor of *Airways* yesterday said nearly three quarters of strike-affected flights to and from the airport today as well as long-haul intercontinental flights. It is said that some engineering is involved in the dispute turned to work. The prospects of an early strike, now going into its fourth week, do not bright. Mr. Rendall, a member of the executive council of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering's, will tomorrow recommend making the stoppage

of 250 stoppages during the 4,000 engineering workers involved in the vote overwhelmingly today to stay out. "Our

say afterwards," Mr. Rendall said, "is now under attack from our unions, and I shall be the executive to endorse membership's action".

The AUEW strikers are holding another mass meeting in a Southall cinema today.

## Magazine criticized for marks about inventor

Press Council has criticized a newspaper's weekend issue for making disparaging marks about a brilliant man and in an adjudication yesterday it said that the public had been given no reason to believe that the man was patently untrue.

Discussing the Greater London Council's system of attaching commemorative blue plaques to buildings, *The Daily Telegraph* said it was called, said it was comedy

and in. For example, one had been erected to electrical engineer A. Blumlein, whose work in radar so secret, it said, that no member of the public had ever seen him.

The Press Council's adjudication mentioned that Blumlein had erected sewers, and John Blumlein had also been nominated.

F. P. Thomson, of Churchgate, Watford, was invited to a letter for publication to be complained about the letter. In it he said the reference to Mr. Blumlein had been useful and acutely distress-

The complaint was upheld.

## BC regrets over play

The director general of the Censorship and Rating Board has expressed regret over the use in a controversial television play, *Mary Mary*, of language, secretaries of the Royal Viewers' and Listeners' Association, said yesterday, the said Sir Charles Curran, a writer to have about the play *Goatie*, in the series *for Today*, which the association, as an "obscene gesture to the Annaan Committee and to the Government". Sir Charles told Mrs. Whitehead, the play's screening was

planned before the publication of the Annaan report was known.

He agreed that "the play was excessive in its use of language and sexual assault on a young teacher in the drama was a shocking incident", but he defended the play's theme. The author "was seeking to present the immense frustration of the adolescent youth with no prospect of academic attainment, on hearing over and over again exhortation to 'achieve-

## Cabinet still undecided on voting for Europe

He said he was annoyed that other unions had "wrecked" an inter-union peace formula designed to end the dispute over shift pay allowances.

Mr. James Mortimer, chairman of the Adjudication, Conciliation and Arbitration Service, which has assisted in drawing up the peace plan, said in a statement last night: "It is my view that there has been no breach of any understanding reached. I can appreciate the feeling of concern that further progress was not made in the negotiations, but this does not mean that understandings given at the Aces meeting have been broken by any of the parties to it."

A shop steward denied that the strike was crumbling, but British Airways said that some AUEW shift workers began normal working yesterday morning in seven key areas.

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## More Continental meat products in UK

## Agriculture

## Hugh Clayton

The British farmers strive to export more meat, suppliers believe in the EEC are selling meat products in the United Kingdom; Britain is exchanging a high proportion of its beef for imports and exports. Examination of the changing trade is timely as the British Agricultural Export Council is struggling towards a formula by which it can work. Having lost its chairman and failed to find much to do, there is little that the council can do now to enlarge meat exports.

Its counterparts overseas, however, are working hard to capture more of the British market. The trend in the market in which British livestock farmers sell their animals is changing.

The National Food Survey published by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food shows that household consumption of all meat in Britain has fallen in 1975. Its supply survey, which uses consumption figures on what is available rather than what is eaten, puts individual beef consumption at less than 21kg a head in 1975, down from more than 21.5kg in 1975.

The world survey of meat consumption issued by the United Nations Department of Agriculture shows that consumption has been less in 1975 and 1974 in all European countries except Sweden, where it fell, and Norway, Switzerland and the United Kingdom, where it did not change.

Beef supplies in Britain last year were lower than six years ago and exports were about three times as great. Lamb exports last year were almost double the total of 1971 and supplies to the home market were about a fifth lower.

Denmark has supplied meat products to Britain for generations

## Bath plan may go to public inquiry

By Michael Hornsby

Mr. Shore, Secretary of State for the Environment, is expected to order a public inquiry into a controversial planning application in Bath which threatens to contravene the city's development plan.

The application, which was the subject of inquiries by *The Times* earlier this year, is for the erection of a factory on land designated as residential.

In view of the introductory paragraph, which refers to "mockery" and "comedy", the Press Council thinks this statement in reference to the late Mr. Blumlein was a disgraceful one. The statement that no member of the public had ever heard of him was patently untrue, as a great many members of the public had.

The complaint was upheld.

## Curzon gold and silver stolen

A watch was being kept on Channel ports last night after the theft of museum exhibits from Kedleston Hall, Derbyshire, the home of Lord Scarsdale.

Most of the 21 items stolen, which included gold, silver and semi-precious jewels, had been presented to Lord Curzon, the uncle of the present Lord Scarsdale, when he was Viceroy of India.



Children and their parents went to the Horniman Museum, south London, to learn how to identify and handle various kinds of snakes. Family groups took part in a quiz.

## Mobility aid provided for 87,000 people

## Answers in Parliament

A periodic digest of information given in parliamentary written replies with the sources and dates in which they appeared in  *Hansard*.

The total number of disabled people receiving outdoor mobility help is 87,000. More than 43,000 people receive the new mobility allowance and 44,000 retain benefits under the old vehicle scheme.

At December 31 in the last three years of the old scheme the number of beneficiaries, excluding war pensioners, for whom separate provision is made, was: 1973, 37,000; 1974, 42,000; 1975, 48,000.

*Hith & Soc Security, April 19.*

Social security: The number of people sentenced to imprisonment for social security frauds in 1975 and 1976 was 1,077 and 1,507 respectively.

*Hith & Soc Security, April 19.*

Respectively 569 and 758 respectively were suspended.

*Hith & Soc Security, April 19.*

Controlled tenancies: The estimated number of controlled tenancies in England and Wales in mid-1957 and at the end of 1965 was

3,900,000 and 1,900,000 respectively. The present estimate is 375,000, but a survey being analysed suggests that the actual figure may be lower.

*Environment, April 19.*

Rent subsidies: Central Government subsidy and rate fund contributions to housing revenue accounts in England this year will be £1.19m. Rent rebates will cost £1.18m extra.

*Environment, April 20.*

Gypsy sites: Local authorities in England and Wales have provided 145 sites, accommodating 2,328 gypsy caravans. That leaves about three-quarters of the gypsy population with no legal stopping place.

*Environment, April 20.*

Torpedoes: The submarine fleet's main anti-surface-ship armament

until the Sub-Harpoon enters service in the early 1980s will be the Mark 8 torpedo. The original version was introduced in 1934; the last of the current version was manufactured in 1962.

Many modifications, based on operational experience, have improved its effectiveness and reliability.

*Defence, March 22.*

Frigates: The running cost of a frigate is about £7,000 a day.

*Defence, March 22.*

Factory farms: A broad estimate of the number of farm livestock kept under intensive husbandry systems in England and Wales on January 1976 was 200,000 cattle reared for slaughter at under 12 months: 6.7 million pigs; 100 million poultry.

*Agriculture, April 19.*

## Plan by Bow Group man for reform of Lords

By Our Political Staff

Proposals for reforming the House of Lords, including a new title, Lords of Parliament, are contained in a Bow Group pamphlet published today.

Although the author, Mr. Jacques Arnold, who is a member of the House of Lords, would give present peers the right to stand in parliamentary elections, the number elected to a reformed House of Lords would be limited.

The pamphlet advocates a new second chamber of 200 county representatives, 127 peers nominated by the Commons, 25 representatives of local authorities, 25 representatives of peers by creation, 12 from the established churches, 15 Law Lords, 15 representatives of university graduates and 81 members of the European Parliament.

There would also be four royal dukes, three former prime ministers, six former chancellors and two former foreign secretaries, that would make a combined total of 515.

Mr. Arnold says the county representatives would be chosen at the time of elections to the Greater London Council, metropolitan districts and county metropolitan county councils. The election would be on the list system on the basis of the parties' proportion of votes at the local elections.

Peers nominated by the Commons would allow for "political peers" to enter the Lords, by proportional selection at the beginning of the session depending on the parties' strength in the Commons. The 25 hereditary peers would be chosen by their colleagues.

*Reform of the House of Lords* (Bow Group Publications, 40p).

## V and A stays open

Plans to close the Victoria and Albert Museum, London, on Mondays have been postponed pending talks with the Civil Service Union after a strike threat.

# Think of your international bank as a Restaurant

★★★★★

1. Do the waiters practise a) contemptuous servility, b) friendly persuasion, or c) interested attention?

2. Do the soufflés always come up to expectations or are they sometimes a bit of a let down?

3. Can they always find you a table, even when they're fully booked?

4. Is the cuisine as international as the menu?

If you chose your bank the way you'd choose a restaurant, would yours give you food for thought?

Barclays International really is international. Through 1700 branches in over 70 countries we offer a worldwide range of services and the banking skills of managers who have broad experience from

working in a variety of overseas markets.

What's more, Barclays has 25 specialist international branches in this country—more than any other bank. And whichever one you deal with you'll find it's like having your own personal Head Waiter—an experienced executive who'll get to know your needs, and who can help you with everything from supplying market intelligence and developing your taste for new export opportunities to arranging overseas finance and credit.

For the full menu of our services, call the manager of your nearest branch of Barclays Bank International. Or contact our International Division at 168 Fenchurch Street, London EC3P 3HP, telephone 01-283 8989, extension 3218.



**BARCLAYS**  
International

Five stars in the Good Bank Guide.

## Science report

## Medicine: Tranquillizers and the brain

The possibility that the brain possesses its own natural tranquilizers has arisen from new experiments on the action of tranquilizers on drugs such as Valium and Librium and their derivatives. Those drugs now possess the ability to latch on to specific sites in the brain, and it seems likely that there must also be a natural brain chemical for which those sites exist.

The compounds in question constitute a chemical family known as benzodiazepines. They are indeed out to over-anxious patients in huge quantities, particularly in the United States, but it is not clear what they do.

Now then does that binding translate in real terms into a tranquilizing effect? Anxiety may involve nerve action during which chemical messengers are passed from one nerve to another. Several brain chemicals have been identified as the natural transmitters of messages between nerves. It has previously been proposed that benzodiazepines prevent the chemical transmitters from reaching their destination by blocking the sites on

nerve endings to which the transmitter agents, Dr. Squires and Dr. Braestrup, however, found that none of the transmitters they tried which each of the other benzodiazepines had the ability to bind to nerve endings. This suggests that the benzodiazepines have their own binding sites distinct from that of any of the transmitters.

It seems most unlikely that the brain would possess specific binding sites for a man-made drug. That reasoning would lead to the knowledge that the brain had binding sites for the opiate drugs (which are not man-made but are also not normally encountered by the brain). It is also unlikely that the brain has binding sites for the cortex of the brain. By analogy it now seems well worth hunting for a natural brain tranquilizer.

By Nature Times News Service  
Source: *Nature*, April 21 (266, 732; 1977).  
© Nature Times News Service, 1977.

كتاب من الأصل

## EKOFISK DISASTER

By Roger Vieilvoe  
Energy Correspondent

A fault on an automatic safety valve fixed about 200ft down the out-of-control well on the Phillips Brava platform may have prevented the expensive safety equipment built into offshore drilling platforms from containing the flow of oil.

It is normal practice among all oil companies in both the British and Norwegian sectors of the North Sea to fit a number of these safety valves. In the case of any unscheduled happening, such as a sudden high pressure surge of oil or gas from the depth of the reservoir, these valves automatically shut and close down the well.

A spokesman for Phillips said one of the valves had been placed down the well but there was some doubt as to whether it had completely malfunctioned or had only partly broken down.

From looking at the flow of oil from the well it appeared that the valve might be partially functioning, the spokesman said. The well had been capable of producing 20,000-5,000 barrels (about 3,500 to 4,000 tonnes) of oil a day but it seemed that the flow was considerably less than this, although there was no way of measuring it exactly.

Phillips confirmed that a crew had taken the well out of operation for a "work-over" - routine maintenance on the well. As far as was known all the routine procedures for such an operation had been followed.

When the well was in operation the oil flows from the ground and into the production platform through a large "Christmas tree" of valves and con-



Mr. Asgar ('Boots') Hansen, an American expert on oil blow-outs, arriving at Stavanger; Mr. Bjartmar with Mr. Bjartmar

trols into which is built a blow-out preventer.

The blow-out preventer again operates automatically, and can contain a sudden surge of oil under pressure by completely blocking the drill pipe with a series of hydraulic rams. To carry out maintenance on the well the "Christmas tree" has to be removed but before this can be done the oil flow is stopped by pumping a chemical mud under high pressure into the drilling pipes which neutralizes the upward pressures.

Once the well has been stabilized and engineers are sure that the oil flow is contained, it is left for a number of hours—on this occasion five

—before any work is carried out. The Christmas tree is then removed and a temporary blow-out preventer installed on top of the well.

Phillips confirmed that the blow-out happened while the crew was trying to fit the temporary blow-out preventer. Only two of the fixing bolts had been secured before the crew had to abandon the operation.

There was no indication why there had been a sudden surge of pressure or why the valves designed to control it had not worked properly, a company spokesman said. There would be a full investigation but everyone's efforts were being chan-

nelled into stopping the flow of oil.

One theory being circulated in oil industry circles is that the surge in pressure was created from a fault on the racker which acts as a plug at the bottom of the well, some 10,000ft below the surface.

There was also considerable surprise among oil experts in London at the possibility of one of the down-the-well safety valves failing.

But burning the discharging crude oil would be ecologically less damaging than allowing a flow to continue for such a long time. There are obvious dangers to fishing grounds, birds and other wildlife, and threats of a black tide on beaches preparing for the summer.

British Petroleum's safety increases in pressure have shut down wells automatically, within any designated safety limits.

Pearce Wright writes: The nightmare for the oilmen is to avoid a fire risk such as one that destroyed the Wicked Witch platform in the Gulf of Mexico. It blazed for seven months before being finally extinguished.

Surprise among oil experts in London at the possibility of one of the down-the-well safety valves failing.

On British Petroleum's safety field there have been several occasions when very

## International moves

## Hope of more effective European cooperation

By David Cross  
Brussels, April 24

The huge oil spill in the North Sea will give new impetus to European efforts to find new more effective ways of fighting such disasters.

It was only last week that representatives of West European maritime nations, including Britain and Norway, agreed on the need for further strengthening of cooperation to tackle oil spills.

At a conference in Hamburg, signatories of a 1969 agreement covering oil spills in the North Sea instructed some of their members to look into the possibility of setting up a joint agency.

The Norwegians will be responsible for working out financial arrangements for sharing equipment used to fight spills, and The Netherlands will investigate whether the 1969 Bonn agreement should be extended to cover other pollutants like toxic chemicals.

## Research work

## A strange fleet of vessels built to mop up slicks

A 10-year research programme between BP and Vickers has produced a series of futuristic machines which can deal with all types of oil slicks.

BP began research on a new system for combating oil pollution at sea in 1967, and then handed over the results to Vickers for further development. Two and a half years ago Vickers-Slingsby began production of an inflatable sea boom contained in a fibreglass boat called the sea-skate.

The purpose of the boom is to contain the oil spill and prevent it drifting on to beaches or being dispersed in smaller slicks.

After containing the spill, the oil is removed by a machine which looks like an upturned space rocket, called the sea-skimmer.

Slingsby, in north Yorkshire,

make this under licence from BP, and while the prototype came from the oil giant, Slingsby engineers redesigned it so that it could be produced in plastic.

Working with the fibreglass boat, oil has been successfully picked up in seas despite gales.

The essential feature about the sea-skimmer is that it will remove up to 100 tons of oil an hour. A mini-skimmer has also been developed at Slingsby plant for use in harbours and inland waterways, and this can remove up to ten tons of oil an hour.

First production units of the mini-skimmer came off the special assembly line in Yorkshire early in 1975, and the device is capable of dealing with all types of oil from gas oil to very viscous bunker oils.

## Accident will have political effects

From Geoffrey Dodd  
Copenhagen, April 24

A second forum, which has been encouraging North Sea Governments to tackle oil spills, is the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. At the last meeting of the alliance's committee on the challenges of modern society in Düsseldorf in February, Dr Joseph Luns, the Nato secretary-general, called on member states to deal with oil spills on an international basis.

In December 1970, Foreign Ministers of the alliance committed their Governments to work urgently to minimize the risk and consequences of accidental spills; to press for early implementation of other international agreements on pollution of the sea by oil; and to accelerate research.

Only the tiny Communist Party, led by Mr M. G. Kaasen, has attempted so far to exploit the political aspects of the situation with its demand today that Mr Nordli resign.

Norway meanwhile has accepted a Danish proposal that a committee be formed to coordinate efforts to limit the environmental damage caused by the blow-out.

Oslo: Mrs Brundtland, Minister for the Environment, said an independent commission of inquiry would be appointed to investigate the blowout and promised to give Parliament a full report as soon as possible.

Large stocks of chemical dispersants are held at ports along the east coast. The United Kingdom Offshore Operators' Association has already sent three sets of spraying gear and detergent from its stock at Aberdeen to civilian service vessels which

## Watch in Britain

## East coast alert for emergency services

From Ronald Faux  
Edinburgh

Emergency services along the east coast have been alerted in case the slick of oil from the Norwegian Ekofisk field begins moving towards Britain. The slick lies on the sea surface half-way between Scotland and Denmark at the mercy of the winds and sea currents.

The present weather pattern is changeable, with bad weather and poor visibility forecast to move into the area from the south-east today. Under the general prevailing pattern however, the bulk of the oil will probably be spread on the Danish or Norwegian shores, arriving some time during the next few days.

Yesterday the Norwegian were handling the situation alone. The British frigate Hardy was still 150 miles from the Ekofisk field. An RAF Nimrod aircraft is ready to act as a communication centre if required.

Norway meanwhile has accepted a Danish proposal that a committee be formed to coordinate efforts to limit the environmental damage caused by the blow-out.

North Sea fishermen are concerned about the effects of the Ekofisk slick. Mr James Lowry, chairman and chief executive of the Scottish Fishermen's Organisation, said yesterday: "This slick could sterilize 100 square miles of the North Sea and the pollution effect could be very serious."

are now operating on the Ekofisk slick.

Other stocks are maintained at major ports along the coast by the Department of Trade, should it prove impossible to break up the slick at sea. Local authorities and owners of pleasure boats have also been alerted and between Cape Wrath and Berwick some 33,500 gallons of dispersant fluid and a large number of people are in readiness.

A Department of Trade spokesman said yesterday: "We are ready to go into action if required. The pattern is that immediate responsibility for dealing with a spill from a rig falls upon the oil company involved, usually the United Kingdom operators."

When the oil reaches the shore, it becomes a local authority matter.

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During his visit to the United States, Dr Soares conferred with President Carter and with the heads of important banking companies and industrialists who are interested in investing in Portugal.

The United States share in this loan is \$550m and will be available in June. Portugal's formal request for membership of the EEC was lodged with the Community last month.

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On Wednesday, Dr Soares will fly to Strasbourg to attend the Council of Europe's foreign ministers' meeting.

Tomorrow Portugal celebrates the third anniversary of the revolution which toppled the Caetano regime.

The celebrations, which begin at midnight with a huge fireworks display in the capital, include a special session tomorrow of Parliament, which the President, General Ramalho Eanes, will attend. A parade in Lisbon by 3,000 troops and 500 army vehicles as well as festivals throughout the country.

These will cost austerity Portugal at least 150 escudos (about £230,000). *Leading article, page 17*

The most serious oil pollution caused by oil-drilling off the United States was in the Santa Barbara channel off Southern California in 1969. A well being drilled by the Union Oil Company burst below the ocean floor in January and attempts to clear the beaches and stop the flow of oil lasted for months.

Incidents on drilling rigs including ones involving injury or death, are fairly frequent. The United States Coast Guard and the Department of the Interior, which regulate offshore oil-drilling, have made a number of surveys of safety on the rigs, trying to isolate factors which could prove dangerous.

One discovery made during a safety survey undertaken by the Interior Department was that there tends to be inadequate reporting of accidents and equipment failures. The men on the spot prefer to repair the damage and replace the faulty equipment quickly.

Officials would like all incidents, however trivial they appear, to be reported so that the frequency of incidents can be measured and underlying causes studied.

## Survey found too few US accidents reported

From Patrick Brogan  
Washington, April 24

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## Pollution fund of £6.7m

Most of the major oil companies working in the North Sea contribute to an oil pollution compensation fund, which stands at about £6.7m, to pay for damage and remedial measures.

There are no international agreements on liability to cover all possible damage from such accidents.

## Texan expert is accused of 'scaremongering'

By Our Energy Correspondent

Allegations by Mr Paul (Red) Adair, the Texan oil firefighter, that plans and equipment for combating blow-outs and fires in the North Sea rigs are inadequate, were dismissed as "scaremongering" last night.

The United Kingdom Offshore Operators' Association, which represents oil companies working in the North Sea, said that it was well aware of the hazards and had not been complacent. It had developed an organization for coordinating all the firefighting facilities provided by the oil companies.

The difficulty with specialist semi-submersible fire-fighting vessels, suggested by Mr Adair, is that they are costly to build and would be lying idle most of the time. Most companies considered the semi-submersible too slow and preferred conventional fire-fighting ships that could reach the scene of a fire or blow-out quickly.

Adair gave a warning that a blow-out of this sort could occur at any time in the North Sea.

The company is a small one, headed by Mr Adair, who is 52. One of his team is Mr Boots Hansen, now on the spot in the North Sea, another Mr Adair's son, Mr Jimmy Adair. Like much of the oil business, they are a product of the old, rough days of the industry, which

Adair himself is a wealthy man. But he and his associates leave the life of comfort at the drop of a hat and plunge into the dirty and dangerous business of fighting blow-outs.

Over the years Mr Adair and his associates have fought blow-outs in the Sahara desert, the Persian Gulf, Mozambique and the Gulf of Mexico. Mr Adair's own view is that no two jobs are alike and that there are "a million little tricks to it".

Mr Adair himself is a wealthy man. But he and his associates leave the life of comfort at the drop of a hat and plunge into the dirty and dangerous business of fighting blow-outs.

Only a month ago, in an interview with the BBC, Mr

## WEST EUROPE

## Britain renews battle with rest of Nine over farm price review

From David Cross  
Brussels, April 24

The British Government faces intense pressure this week from other EEC members, with nine more increasingly impatient farmers behind them, to play the Community game by agreeing to raise farm and food prices.

After failing last month to meet their usual April 1 deadline, ministers of agriculture of the Nine begin a meeting in Luxembourg tomorrow to continue their negotiations on this year's farm price review.

The general expectation in Brussels is that, after some well-staged wrangling for the benefit of British public opinion, the ministers will agree to a package of measures which will almost certainly increase food prices in Britain by at least 2p in the £.

The ministers will have before them a series of final compromise suggestions agreed by eight member governments, but rejected by the British at the end of a 50-hour marathon nearly a month ago.

To the great irritation of the British, the traditionalists have agreed to a much bigger price increase for milk producers than it sought originally.

An immediate increase of 3.5 per cent, which seems most likely, would inevitably help to stimulate new butter and milk mountains, although its impact would be moderated slightly by a 1.5 per cent production tax which would begin to be levied in the autumn.

butter subsidy and a 2.5 per cent green pound devaluation.

Britain's aim was to freeze butter prices over the next 12 months; otherwise they would rise by some 16p a lb as a result of various EEC arrangements.

The problem this week will be to find a face-saving formula for the British Government which, inevitably, will have to accept something much more modest than it sought originally.

This would involve a slight increase in the butter subsidy to partners up to 8p a lb and a slightly smaller green pound devaluation of some 3 per cent, perhaps.

Such arrangements could keep the price of butter stable for the next few months, but other food prices like beef, cereals, bacon, pork, and possibly milk would rise.

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Among the Paris traditionalists there have been signs of slight thaw, since Cardinal Marcellin, the Archbishop of Paris, offered the use of church until June 4.

Mr Daudet-Bourget, the cardinal leader of the Paris traditionalists, at first turned down the archbishop's offer. But he has now been to see Cardinal Marcellin just off the Place Médicis, and says he will give his reply to Cardinal Marcellin at a press conference tomorrow.

It is believed that the offer will be accepted.

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## OVERSEAS Mr van der Byl demands guerrillas scale down war before Rhodesia settlement talks begin

From Michael Knipe  
Victoria Falls, Rhodesia  
April 24

Mr Pieter van der Byl, the Foreign Minister, said today that the Rhodesian Government would insist that the guerrillas war must be scaled down before any further constitutional negotiations were held.

He was not optimistic that Rhodesia would be assured in the past that the conflict would ease, he said, and it had never happened.

He said: "It was difficult to judge whether Mr Joshua Nkomo and Mr Robert Mugabe, the African nationalist leaders, were in control of the guerrillas as they claimed because they had never tried to demonstrate their control by ordering a scaling down of operations."

Mr van der Byl made these points in an interview with *The Times*. He warned Britain and the United States that if they wanted positive results from the current settlement initiative there would have to be more give and take in the way of concessions and a greater appreciation of the steps the Rhodesian Government was taking.

Whenever Rhodesia made moves in the direction the West wanted it to go, he said, Britain and America "just try and turn the screws tighter".

"We accept the principle of majority rule and the United States repeat the Byrd amendment (thus once again banning the import of Rhodesian chrome into America). We repeat parts of the Land Tenure Act and a witch-hunt begins over the offices we have here and there. We accept the possibility of going into conference and having a target date of majority rule next year and there is a witch-hunt after petrol companies which may be supplying us with fuel."

"I really think it is very clear indeed that if they (Britain and America) go on behaving like this, they will provoke a backlash within this

country that nobody will be able to contain. What she has is the point of trying to do anything constructive regarding a settlement if everybody moves towards progressively a majority rule."

He said the demand for continued concessions from the Rhodesians with no quid pro quo was "typical African nationalist mentality", according to which any concession was interpreted as a sign of weakness.

"If you get your man on the run you must go on chasing him. Well, this will not work very well with the Rhodesians. It will put him in the frame of mind of letting the devil take the whole thing."

Mr van der Byl said that if the West continued with this approach, it was risking putting everything back to "square one".

He said this point had been put firmly to Dr Owen during the British Foreign Secretary's visit to Rhodesia last week. Mr van der Byl conceded that Dr Owen had called on the Rhodesian Government to show its good faith by repealing all remaining racially discriminatory legislation, stopping its practice of hanging nationalist guerrillas and releasing political detainees, but said: "at the same time, the West should 'stop aggravating us with these additional pinheads'."

The scrapping of all discriminatory race legislation could come about "reasonably soon", he said, but the mechanics of it were complicated.

Mr van der Byl made it clear that the Government wanted the "final decision" on any settlement terms will be in the hands of Rhodesia's present all-white Parliament and that the terms will have to be passed by the two-thirds majority. He said he was confident the Government could get the backing of Parliament for any settlement if a majority is achieved.

Asked if the Rhodesian Front was prepared for the possibility of majority rule next year, Mr van der Byl said it was ready but it was not simply

a matter of majority rule. There would have to be a "very qualified franchise—that's what the whole thing is about".

He said his Government's attitude towards Mr Nkomo and Mr Mugabe had not hardened in Dr Owen's view that they were "men of peace forced into violence".

"They are criminal terrorists", he said, and they would not be allowed back into Rhodesia's campaign for election until they had abandoned and repudiated terrorism. They should never have been allowed to attend last year's abortive Geneva conference.

"The deplorable fact is that by their attendance at Geneva, these people have acquired some sort of legitimacy, simply because they were there, which is really quite unreal."

Mr van der Byl commanded Dr Owen, saying he was clearly "very able" and had "a reasonably good grasp" of the Rhodesian situation.

He emphasised that the proposed constitutional negotiations were still at the exploratory stage and that the Rhodesian Government was "reserving its position" on Dr Owen's demand that the idea of a peaceful transition in 1978 must be accepted.

Zaire officials had no confirmation of reports that napalm was being used against the rebels, said by Zaire to have crossed from Angola with the connivance of the Marxist rebels there and their Cuban and Soviet backers. The three rebels seized Mutsanga and Kapanga shortly after invading Zaire on March 8.

President Mobutu was today in Kolwezi, the copper-mining centre of Shaba, and there was speculation that he may visit Shaba if it is shortly released.

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## Ethiopia closes six consulates in Eritrea

Addis Ababa, April 24—Ethiopia's military rulers, who yesterday ordered four American facilities to be shut down, today announced the closure of the American and five other consulates in the northern

The American, Belgian and Sudanese consulates of Belgium, France and Britain were ordered closed immediately.

The American facilities ordered closed yesterday were the United States Information Service cultural centre, a radio communications station in the Eritrean capital of Asmara, the military assistance advisory group, and the medical research unit. About 100 American staff were given four days to leave.

A Government announcement accused its late Emperor Haile Selassie of entering into an agreement with the Americans to set up four organizations to support the interests of his regime and those of the United States Government. To continue the radio operations "not only directly contradicts with Ethiopia's guiding socialist ideology but also opposes her foreign policy of non-alignment".

The American Embassy has not been directly affected by the Government's decision and no comments were available from it on the move.

Ethiopia's military government is now seeking Soviet assistance.

In Washington, the State Department said the United States was protesting at the "short deadline period".—AP.

## Tanzania presses Kenya to hand over ships and planes

From Our Correspondent  
Nairobi, April 24

Tanzania has demanded that Kenya should hand over aircraft and ships to the border between the two countries.

Tanzania closed the border in February, cutting off Kenya's valuable export trade to Tanzania and Zambia.

A Tanzanian statement at the weekend gives the full details of the demands made on Kenya, and says these are not subject to discussion. The list includes the modern pas-

## Grandmaster's record 24 hours of chess

Reykjavik, April 24—Vlastimil Hort, the Czechoslovak grandmaster, today broke a 37-year-old record for simultaneous chess by playing 550 games in 24 hours and 29 minutes.

Hort said after his marathon in a local school that his feet were very tired—he had covered over 12 miles, generally taking only three or four seconds a move—but his mind was still clear and he could have continued. He had 477 wins, 63 draws and 10 defeats.—Reuter.

## New York haven for 'nomad kids'

From Peter Strafford  
New York, April 24

One street away from Times Square, in Eighth Avenue, in the heart of New York's photographic district, is a clean wooden door with "Under 21" written on it. It is the setting for a new rescue operation, designed to help youngsters who have been ensnared into a world of corruption and drugs and want to get out.

The official title of the building is Covenant House. It is run by Father Bruce Ritter, a Franciscan who is appalled by the way youngsters, some only 12-year-olds, are caught up in the world around Times Square and then, if they want to escape from it, have no one to turn to.

The idea, he says, is that anyone can come to Covenant House, where no questions will be asked. No pressure will be brought to bear, but attempts will be made to help. He adds that in the first three and a half weeks after it opened last month, some 400 youngsters sought help.

These children are victims of modern conditions, Father Ritter says, but in many ways they are comparable to those of Dickens' day. They are "nomad kids" among all of whom come from broken families, or ones which no longer exist or in which they felt unwanted.

Some of them are from New York, others from as far away as California or New Mexico. The ones from out of town

often arrive by bus, drawn by what they imagine to be the glamour of New York and the possibility of making a lot of money quickly.

The local pimps have agents at the bus terminal looking out for these boys and girls, because there is a demand for both. One of the features of the photographic industry these days is the success of films which children in them, so that youngsters can make money until their looks begin to fade, and then their troubles begin.

Others go under more quickly. The *New York Post* reported recently that the body of a girl aged between 14 and 16, a drug addict, had been found naked on a rooftop in the Times Square area. As usual, it commented, no one noticed. Not her parents, who don't even know she's dead. Not her pimps, who will still have plenty of customers, and surely not the other nameless children of the night who patrol 42nd Street.

Father Ritter is a man of 50 who wears a T-shirt. He told me that until 1968 he was an established academic teaching medieval theology at Manhattan College. But he was upset by criticisms from his students, who said that he should practise what he preached. So he gave it up in order to see what he could do for the young people of New York.

He began in the East Village, which had become a haven for addicts and where, for the first month, he was

robbed almost every day. One night six youngsters came into his apartment looking for somewhere to stay, and that was the beginning of an attempt to provide help for the hundreds with nowhere to turn in New York.

Today Covenant House has 10 centres around New York and can handle more than 100 youngsters at a time. The new one in Eighth Avenue is different from the others because it is designed to offer emergency help, perhaps for a night or two, to youngsters in trouble.

It is an attractive place, with bright colours everywhere. It has a cafeteria and chairs that can be turned into beds. When I was there I saw a boy whom Father Ritter described as "Hector", or made prostitute, and a girl and some boys who had run away from home. He was trying to persuade them to telephone their parents.

The real problem, he said, was not so much providing this emergency help, but trying to find a way to get youngsters who had been hardened by several years of street life back into normal ways.

Some of the youngsters had been with Covenant House for up to six years, and had been helped to get a more or less normal education. They were "our kids" because no one else had any concern for them. But there were also the hard cases who were very difficult to help.

## Zaire rebels facing loss of two towns

Kinshasa, April 24—Zaire and Moroccan troops today appeared poised to recapture Mutsanga and Kapanga, two of the main towns in Zaire's embattled Shaba province. Zaire radio said their recapture was "from one moment to the next".

Western military specialists in Kinshasa said that Kasaiang rebels were retreating from their positions without offering any resistance to the two columns of pro-government forces outside the towns.

Zaire troops were reported to be spearheading the offensive, backed up by Moroccan troops equipped with mortars and artillery and war-painted pygmy warriors armed with bows and poison-tipped arrows.

The arrest of Mr Cox by two plain-clothes policemen on Friday evening caused concern because at the time of his arrest he was clearly quite unwell.

Mr Cox, originally of Ealing, London, has worked on the English-language newspaper for 18 years and has been editor since 1969. He is married to an Argentine wife and has five

## Trial threatened for carrying report on guerrillas

## Argentine police release British editor after 24 hours in jail

From Our Correspondent  
Buenos Aires, April 24

Mr Robert Cox, the British editor of the *Buenos Aires Herald*, was released by Argentine police last night after 24 hours' detention. He had been told, however, that he would have to stand trial for publishing unauthorized information.

The arrest of Mr Cox by two plain-clothes policemen on Friday evening caused concern because at the time of his arrest he was clearly quite unwell.

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Mr Cox, originally of Ealing, London, has worked on the English-language newspaper for 18 years and has been editor since 1969. He is married to an Argentine wife and has five

children. He regards Argentina as his home and has spoken out consistently for human rights.

Mr Cox was told the case relates to his publication on Thursday of a report from Rome on a press conference by General of the People's Army.

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## Kidnapped minister's photograph published

San Salvador, April 24—A photograph of El Salvador's Foreign Minister in captivity was published yesterday in an apparent attempt by his kidnappers to show that he was alive and well.

The morning newspaper *Diario de Hoy* printed the photograph on its front page. It showed Señor Mauricio Borgono Pohl, with several days' growth of beard, sitting in front of a guerilla banner.

The photograph was carried in the initial of the Popular Liberation Forces, a small urban guerrilla group which kidnapped the minister last Tuesday, and the banner read: "Montoneros".

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## OVERSEAS

# Egypt to seek greater British peace-making role in Middle East during Dr Owen's Cairo talks

From Robert Fisk  
Cairo, April 24

Dr David Owen, the Foreign Secretary, will find Egypt more anxious than ever that Britain should play a prominent role in Middle East peace-making, when he starts his talks in Cairo tomorrow with Egyptian ministers and officials.

During a morning meeting, Mr Ismail Fahmi, the Egyptian Foreign Minister, is expected to urge Dr Owen to give Britain's wholehearted support to the setting up of a Palestinian state on the West Bank of the Jordan and to take a leading role in the security guarantees that Egypt believes should follow a Geneva peace agreement.

No one in Cairo expects Dr Owen suddenly to commit Britain to any dramatic new initiative while it is in the Middle East. British diplomatic interest in Africa has centred so exclusively upon the southern part of the continent in recent years that not since 1970, when Sir Alec Douglas-Home (now Lord Home of

Hirsch) came here to attend President Nasser's funeral, has a British Foreign Secretary visited Cairo.

For its part, the British Embassy here has been emphasising the importance of new agreement, which Dr Owen will sign with Mr Fahmi and which will assist British businesses in Egypt, rather than promoting speculation on the political consequences of his visit.

Nevertheless, Egyptian officials have been recalling that Dr Owen is at present chairman of the EEC Council of Foreign Ministers and the Arab states have been making increasing play in recent weeks of the importance they attach to European involvement in a Middle East peace. Egypt has already suggested that Britain, France, West Germany and other Community countries should attend the Geneva talks.

One Egyptian official who will meet Dr Owen also claimed that Britain still had an historic role to play in the Middle East

if only because of its past involvement. "Britain produced the Balfour Declaration," he said rather forcefully. "Now Britain should repay the belief of justice to the Palestinians."

Dr Owen will spend at least an hour with Mr Fahmi in the morning, and afterwards will meet Mr Mahmoud Riad, the Arab League's secretary-general. He will then lunch with the Prime Minister and with President Sadat, who will take place on Tuesday.

Dr Owen's visit to Cairo is tinged with memories of the British involvement in Egypt. He will hold his press conference on Tuesday, before flying on to Damascus, in the same blue-painted mansion in which Lord Cromer lived during his stern and controversial rule. The building is now the British Ambassador's residence.

Tomorrow, he will open an English language teaching centre at the British Council, the first since the Anglo-French Suez intervention in 1956.

## 27 Israelis hurt by bus bomb

From Moshe Brillant  
Tel Aviv, April 24

As Prime Minister stepped down after a disclosure that he kept bank accounts in America in contravention of Israel's foreign currency regulations, the Treasury began investigating a complaint that Mr Abu Eban, the former Foreign Minister, had dollars in a New York bank.

But in contrast to Mr Robin, who admitted violating the law, Mr Eban said he had a 10-year-old permit to maintain foreign currency abroad because of his international literary and academic activities.

He also revealed today that he had money in a British bank. He claimed that he brought tens of thousands of dollars to Israel through the proper channels.

Mr Eban, who was dropped from the Government in 1974 when Mr Robin came to power, is expected to become Foreign Minister again before he can draw conclusions.

Officials said they were having trouble finding a record of Mr Eban's permit because the filing system 10 years ago was poorly organized and they will have to go through tens of thousands of papers.

All permits were cancelled in 1974 after some abuses were discovered, but officials admitted that they neglected to inform permit holders individually that they had to apply for renewals.

## Third World report

### Poor countries gain concessions

At Lomé, April 24, when the Lomé convention, linking 46 European "Community", was signed amid much pomp and circumstance in the Togolese capital, Mr Sonny Ramphal, then the Guyanan Foreign Minister, was the only participant to inject a cautionary note into the otherwise euphoric proceedings.

The new agreement, praiseworthy though it was, represented only a first step towards greater cooperation between Europe and its former colonies in Africa, the Caribbean and the Pacific (ACP), he said. "It would be an essay in self-deception for us to believe that the document we sign today holds all those ideals, and it would be a dangerous presence for us to imply that it does."

In common with many international agreements, the five-year convention represented a midway compromise between the often conflicting interests of rich and poor. Since it came into effect, the ACP countries have steadily used every opportunity available to them to press for better terms than they managed to secure during the negotiations which led to the original deal.

One such occasion took place this month, when EEC and ACP ministers met in Fiji for their second annual stock-taking of the way the convention is operating. A first gathering in Brussels last summer produced so many complaints from the ACP countries, particularly in the trade sector, that leading representatives from both sides had to meet later in the year to try to resolve some of the more technical disputes.

The latest meeting was in

absence of any real participation with the Community over the reductions, the ACP agreed to restate the quotas we gave him for such a deed."

To their general disappointment, the ACP countries were less successful in securing improved access for a number of other products like bananas, rum and beef, where problems have existed since the convention came into operation.

During their talks in Fiji, the ACP countries conceded that the main faction, involved in the agreement was now working fairly satisfactorily. The European Commission in Brussels, which is responsible for allocating aid both for development projects and for loss of earnings on raw materials under the so-called Stabex Scheme has been working overtime in recent weeks to meet requests from the ACP countries.

In this context, the ACP request for seven new products to be added to the original list of 12 raw materials covered in the scheme. They include cloves, vanilla, wool and gum arabic. But demands for the incorporation of mineral products and rubber were turned down.

Although most ACP representatives feel that the Community could have done more in Fiji, particularly to improve trade relations, they appear generally satisfied with the outcome.

The PLO spokesman said:

"We do not want to get involved." He said, Palestinian leaders were making contacts to try to calm the situation.

In the past eight days, rival pro-Syrian and pro-Iraqi Palestinian groups have twice clashed in southern Lebanon.

Reuter

## Mr Eban's US bank account investigated

From Moshe Brillant  
Tel Aviv, April 24

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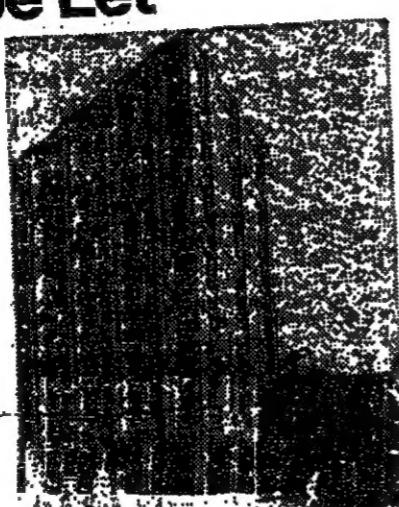
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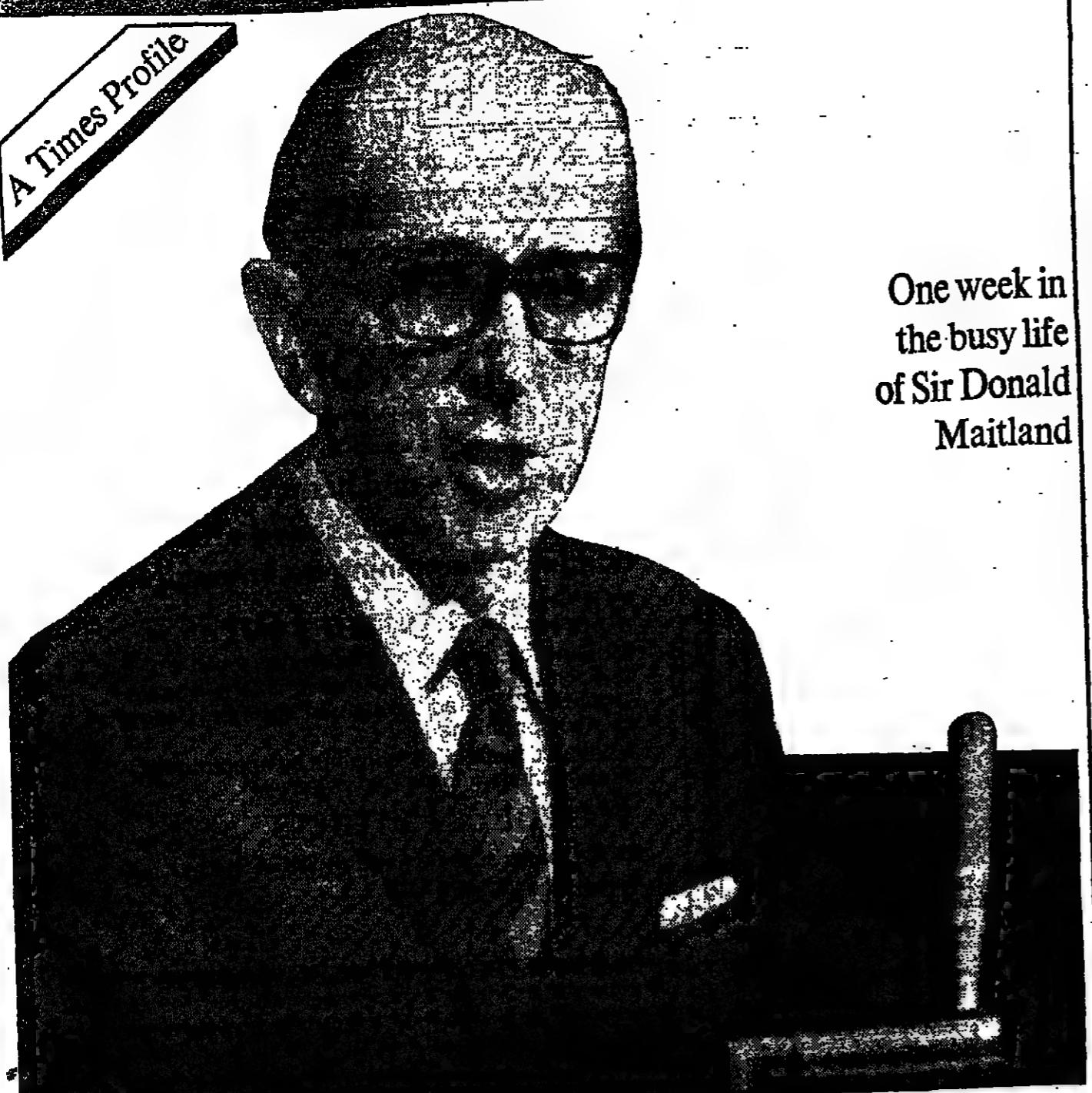
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A Times Profile



One week in  
the busy life  
of Sir Donald  
Maitland

## Setting a hectic pace in the

### corridors of power

Of all the bewildering array of interlocking bodies and committees which constitute the EEC's decision-taking machinery few are at once so influential and yet so hidden from public view as the Committee of Permanent Representatives or Coreper, to give it the name (derived from its title in French) by which it is invariably known.

If, broadly speaking, it can be said that the European Commission proposes, and the Council of Ministers disposes, it is Coreper, somewhere in between, which acts as shock absorber. Coreper is made up of the heads and deputy heads of the missions, or permanent representations, maintained in Brussels. These missions are not to be confused with the embassies which separately represent the conventional diplomatic interests of the nine in Belgium.

The United Kingdom representation, known by the acronym Ukre, is currently presided over by Sir Donald Maitland, a small and wiry 54-year-old, a career diplomat with previous experience in the Middle East and as the British delegate at the United Nations, Sir Donald took over from Sir Michael Palliser in the second half of 1975.

His deputy is Mr Bob Goldsmith, who came to Brussels from the Department of Trade and expects to return there later this year. The Ukre staff is made up in about equal measure of Foreign Office diplomats and officials temporarily seconded from Home departments, the latter being slightly in the majority in the senior posts.

This makes Ukre unique, a microcosm of Whitehall abroad. "The tariff has taken over from the gunboat as the main instrument of diplomacy, and in Brussels we are on the front line of a revolution in the nature and conduct of British foreign policy," Sir Donald says. "I feel myself much more an extension of London than an ambassador."

Coreper meets twice a week, at the level of Ambassador on Thursdays and of Deputies on Fridays. Its main function is to prepare for the meetings of the Council of Ministers. It is also frequently asked by the Council to carry out specialist studies or to examine further unresolved questions.

All policy proposals submitted by the Commission are vetted by Coreper, thus enabling member states, in the relative privacy of ambassadorial discussion, to challenge those aspects of the proposals likely to be unacceptable to national governments even before they come up for debate by the Council of Ministers.

In practice, a substantial proportion of decisions are agreed at the level of Coreper. This procedure undoubtedly saves time, though it tends to add to the secrecy in which many EEC decisions are taken. As a counterpoise, the Commission is allowed to be present at Coreper meetings.

The chairmanship of Coreper, like that of the Council of Ministers and the three-yearly EEC summit meetings, is currently in British hands and will remain there until the end of June, when Britain's tenure of the EEC presidency expires. The presidency rotates every six months among member states in alphabetical order.

Sir Donald finds that what he calls "the tyranny of the presidency" has imposed a very rigid pattern on his week. The first part is largely devoted to preparations for the crucial Thursday session, and on Friday he repairs to London to report to the Government on what has transpired and on the prospects for the coming week.

The challenge has come at the right time. "There is a great deal of basic knowledge—more than in any other job in the diplomatic service—that has to be acquired on coming to Brussels", Sir Donald says. After more than a year here, he is beginning to feel the extra confidence that comes from familiarity with his subject matter.

The following is a week out of Sir Donald's diary, beginning on March 28:

**Monday**  
Arrives at 7.30 am and arrives at Brussels, continues all morning. Sanderson in office.

2.30 pm: Receives Portuguese Ambassador to Brussels, who presented his Government's formal application to join EEC. No particular ceremony, but Sir Donald makes short and innocuous statement on behalf of Community.

3.30 pm: Takes chair at meeting of EEC ambassadors and their counterparts from the African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) countries linked to the EEC by the Lome Convention. Main purpose is to prepare for the annual meeting of EEC and ACP ministers in Fiji on April 13 and 14. Much of discussion is devoted to trade problems. Sir Donald puts agreed Community position, speaking from a tight "steering brief" prepared by the secretariat of the Council of Ministers.

Coreper resumes soon after 3 pm. It is briefly interrupted at 5.30 pm for the signing of a cooperative scientific research project with a group of non-EEC countries. Main Coreper business is completed at 7.30 pm. After which there is a short farewell ceremony for the departing German Ambassador.

8.30 pm: Sir Donald returns to office. Discusses points to be raised during next day's London visit with members of Ukre staff. Goes home for dinner at 9.30 pm and continues to work on papers until about midnight.

**Tuesday**  
7.30 am: Rises and reaches office by 9.30 am. Sees Mr Benn in Charlemagne building—headquarters of the Council of Ministers—at 9.30 am before energy meeting begins. The meeting lasts throughout the morning, continues during a working lunch and finally winds up at about 4.30 pm.

6 pm: Meeting of EEC research ministers begins. Main item is the choice of site for the Community's experimental thermonuclear fusion project. Mr Benn, who had been in the chair at the energy meeting, puts on national hat to argue the British case for Culham. He is replaced in the chair by Mr Gerald Kaufman, Minister of State for Industry. Meeting continues throughout night, with breaks for a working dinner, bilateral discussions between Mr Kaufman and other ministers, and restricted ministerial sessions from which Sir Donald and other ambassadors are excluded. Finally ends in failure at 4.15 am on Wednesday morning.

**Wednesday**  
5 am: Arrives home and goes to bed. Up at 9.30 am and in office by 9.45 am. Reads papers, telegrams and brief prepared by Council of Ministers secretariat on monthly session later in the morning of Greek EEC membership negotiations.

11.15 am: Sees Mr Byron Theodoropoulos, the leader of the Greek negotiating team. Discussions proper start at 11.30 am. Sir Donald makes statement on behalf of Nine on Greek contributions to the EEC budget. Lunches in office on sandwiches.

3 pm: Receives briefing from Council

secretariat on next day's Coreper meeting. Returns to office to continue working on secretarial papers. More papers come in during the afternoon both from the secretariat and from the presidency in London.

6 pm: Begins to dictate personal guidance notes for the Coreper meeting. Continues to work on these and related papers after dinner at home. To bed about midnight.

**Thursday**  
Arrives at office. Briefing session with those Ukre staff members specializing in subjects on the Coreper agenda. Sir Donald is brought up to date with basis of what have arisen since he 5.30 pm: what seems to be last building. Takes chair at Coreper meeting at 10 am, rings bell to start meeting at 10.15 am and begins to plough through agenda. There are three main items: Preparations for the EEC/ACP Fiji meeting; the aftermath of the abortive farm and research ministers' council earlier in the week; and preparations for the meeting of foreign ministers in Luxembourg the following week.

Meeting breaks for luncheon, which is attended by Mr Roy Jenkins, the President of the European Commission, and several of his colleagues. This engagement has become a tradition at the last session of Coreper before the monthly meeting of EEC foreign ministers.

Coreper resumes soon after 3 pm. It is briefly interrupted at 5.30 pm for the signing of a cooperative scientific research project with a group of non-EEC countries. Main Coreper business is completed at 7.30 pm. After which there is a short farewell ceremony for the departing German Ambassador.

8.30 pm: Sir Donald returns to office. Discusses points to be raised during next day's London visit with members of Ukre staff. Goes home for dinner at 9.30 pm and continues to work on papers until about midnight.

**Friday**  
6 am: Gets up to catch plane for London. This is slightly delayed and does not leave Brussels until 7.55 am. Arrives in London and sees first Mr Frank Judd, the Minister of State at the Foreign Office, to report on the past week's event in Brussels and the prospects for the next.

11 am: Attends a meeting at the Cabinet office chaired by Sir Roy Denman, second permanent secretary in the Cabinet secretariat, and other officials from the Treasury, the Ministry of Agriculture and the Foreign Office. They go over the same ground as at the Judd meeting but in more detail.

1 pm: Call on Mr Joel Barnett, chief secretary to the Treasury, and they run through agenda for the joint meeting of EEC foreign and budget ministers in Luxembourg on the coming Tuesday. After a sandwich lunch, sees Sir Michael Palliser, the head of the Foreign Office, and leaves for Heathrow at 3 pm, arriving back in office in Brussels by 6 pm. (The Friday visit to London was instituted to cope with the extra work load of the presidency, but it has proved so useful that it is likely to become a permanent feature of the UKREP operation.)

Saturday and Sunday  
Saturday morning—Sir Donald reports to other members of the Ukre staff on the results of his London visit. That chore over, he is then his own man until Monday morning. As has become their custom he and Lady Maitland spend part of Sunday walking in the Forêt de Soignes, the splendid tract of woodland lying on the south-eastern outskirts of Brussels.

Michael Hornsby  
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## DOMESTIC SITUATIONS

MOTHER'S HELP  
PUTNEY

Wanted for Jeremy (7) and Marcella (2), in comfortable surroundings. Must be able to drive and willing to walk sparingly occasionally in the time including many weekends. N.B. 01-788 9314.

RESPONSIBLE  
MARRIED COUPLE

Two self-sufficient people, 25+, experienced cooks, to be required now for minimum 9 months, for isolated residence for 12/20 people. Plenty of other help and care given. Write to: Mrs. G. Maitland, 23, The Times.

**NANNY/MOTHER'S HELP** Ascot to start immediately for 2 boys aged 2 and 6 months. Also required for 6 month old baby. Own room with T.V. and shower. N.B. 01-788 9314.

**WANTED** Mother's Help for 9, a boy, 10, and a girl, 12. Good experience preferred. Competitive rates. Live in. Tel. 01-592 2628.

**AU PAIRE** position in Spratford, available immediately. Good salary, good food and light housework, as mother at university. £4 weekly pay negotiable. References essential. Tel. 01-592 2628.

**CANADIAN FAMILY** requires experienced nanny, 21, to care for 2 boys, 18 months and 1 year. Own room, own shower. Tel. 01-592 2628.

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**MOTHER'S HELP** (20-21) responsible and experienced. Tel. 01-592 2628.

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**EXPERIENCED NANNY** (21) for 2 boys, 18 months and 1 year. Own room, own shower. Tel. 01-592 2628.

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Eric Moonman

# Teaching government ministers how to do their jobs properly

The Prime Minister is supported by 107 ministers. The process of their recruitment from the back benches—as with previous administrations—is baffling to the world outside Westminster, to say nothing of the speculation and surprise of their own colleagues. In reality, the Prime Minister largely inherits his team from his predecessor, as Jim Callaghan did. Change, however, will introduce, but these are invariably gradual and modest.

How good are ministerial decisions? How effectively do they relate priorities to policies, plans and procedures to people? A few critical factors affect the answer to those questions: the competence and experience of the individual minister; the way a department has been run and how it expects to be run; Civil Service recruitment policy; and the amount of time available to ministers for planning between crises.

To take the competence and experience of ministers first, very rarely does ministerial appointment reflect any degree of specialist knowledge of a department's responsibilities. The likelihood is, however, for example, someone who has spent all his life in agriculture may find himself looking after the Royal Navy, or the man who has no technological or managerial experience lands in the Department of Energy. And, if you look back over the past two decades, there have been many instances of a politician covering one department's work and without

experience of how to make an organization work for them, have sought to find alternative ways of obtaining information and advice. And when the pressure is such that there is no time to think beyond the next election, demands have now risen, as Dick Crossman once told me when I chided him for misunderstanding a new town policy when he was at the Housing Ministry: "Don't complain. My Cabinet colleagues take the best possible decisions the 24 hours while he is learning?

A minister can affect the mood of a department, but it requires considerable drive and determination. The late Tony Crosland really did shake up the Department of Education, making it task-orientated where, prior to his tenure of office, they had muddled through, failing to respond to outside pressures and being prone to the fact: He worked very early each morning and was the last to leave each night. This transformed the mood and aspirations of the staff far more effectively than any directive or memo.

The raising of the aspirations of staff is critical in any organization but it is made somewhat more difficult in government departments by a recruitment system which, years after the Fulton Committee recommendations, still fails to reflect the changes in the nature of our society, still aims to perpetuate a class and still does not reflect the change of government's more added responsibilities by developing new management procedures.

It is not surprising then that many ministers, lacking detailed knowledge of their department's work and without

experience of his schizophrenic role at Number 10. (Nor have we heard the last of these pathetic tit-bits as at least five ex-Cabinet ministers are busy writing up the their versions of the duties of Harold's emirage.)

Haines claims that the Wilson Government was too timid in its use of these "politically committed, mostly young people who are experts in their own field and on party policy." He describes the Pensions Minister's Policy Unit, incredibly, "the most conservative advance in the machinery of government for many a long year," and says that the criticism of "jobs for the boys" should be rejected in order to resist the encroachment of Civil Service power on the executive and upon Parliament.

In the 1966-70 Labour Government tried to tackle the problem of ministerial inexperience by recruiting specialist political advisers, men and women who were given the status of temporary civil servants, jobs but were not the less security, said Sir Harold Wilson, after leaving the system in a discussion of techniques of government at the 1975 Commonwealth Conference, said that they acted as "screws" examining papers put before their minister, drawing attention to conflicts with party policy or areas which might have electoral implications, an "extra pair of hands, ears and eyes" who could keep the minister in touch with outside interest groups, undertake speech writing and research, and were also more politically aware than the Civil Service itself. Sir Harold exaggerated the importance of these political advisers and so does Joe Haines, himself a political adviser himself. If any of the band of 107 need

it would seem from his revelations of his schizophreatic role at Number 10. (Nor have we heard the last of these pathetic tit-bits as at least five ex-Cabinet ministers are busy writing up the their versions of the duties of Harold's emirage.)

remind them of their political creed then there's a hell of a lot wrong with the ministers.

Yet the minister does need expert advice other than from civil servants. The Fulton Committee recommended that a ministerial research unit that all ministers should be allowed to employ on a temporary basis such small numbers of experts as he personally considers he needs to help and advise him.

Some of those listed as special advisers do indeed fall into that category, the Department of Health and Social Security being one of the services of such men as Professor Brian Abel-Smith.

In addition to the experts on poverty, transport, energy, or whatever, there is one additional adviser for whom ministers should not do anything in the executive and upon Parliament.

In fact, the quarter of a million pounds which the political adviser's cost the taxpayer is in part a compensation system of elite personal assistants whose expertise was often acquired in university research departments and whose knowledge is actually less than the minister's own. And the special relationship they have with the minister may well keep away people whose advice the minister ought to have. For any minister, or senior executive of any kind, should be cautious with his time and the number of people with whom he has a special relationship. Few of today's political advisers would qualify on grounds of special knowledge of the responsibilities of the department. And if any of the band of 107 need

such forward-thinking and planning would help our ministers to get their work load and objectives in perspective. But who serves in the ministerial ranks and how their performance is assessed remains.

A group of Labour MPs is demanding that the Prime Minister should no longer make the choice himself and that all appointments should be voted on by the Parliamentary Labour Party. This would be bad practice; it would merely reflect the relative strength of the left and right wings, rather than a serious scrutiny of the men selected.

The answer lies in recognizing that a ministerial appointment requires the same preparation and training as an executive task in industry. Thus a management development scheme, with regular appraisals and training, has as much validity for potential ministers as it does for anyone in the decision-making business. This could not produce experts in any particular field but it should strengthen decision making and expose the failures.

The author is Labour MP for Easton.

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## Crumbs for the Third World from the rich north's table?

The world's rich northern nations are desperately searching for a way of bringing to an end, with the minimum of acrimony and as constructive an appearance as possible, the so-called Paris dialogue in which they and their southern neighbours have been engaged for nearly 18 months.

It is not an easy task, but the decision has now been taken to wind up the so far rather fruitless exercise with a ministerial session on May 30 and June 1. If this final session is not to prove a sour and abrasive affair, the rich group of countries should be voted on by the Parliamentary Labour Party. This would be bad practice; it would merely reflect the relative strength of the left and right wings, rather than a serious scrutiny of the men selected.

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### The GLC

Owing to a fault of transmission in a sentence about the London boroughs, the words "excluding the three City of London, which are non-political" were included mistakenly in George Hutchinson's article on Saturday.

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## Journalists play both ends against the middle

The National Union of Journalists stumbled through four days of confused cantankerous debate at its conference last week, but every trade union has its allure, and for all the lack of order or coherence, or perhaps because of it, the conference has a personality all of its own.

It can glibly make some cross decisions. Without demur, delegates voted to go into secret session to debate a persistent dispute at East Midlands Allied Press, and the journalists who were there to report the proceedings were thrown out. It can hardly be said that 340 delegates wanted to get down in private to discuss delicate matters of strategy; it merely turned into a slanging match. And the irony of journalists gathering on the press were largely unnoticed.

The conference is the annual occasion for the union to wear its ultra-left mask, which for most of the other 51 weeks in the year is put away. An observer would be convinced of an imminent upsurge of

militancy in what is in fact an essentially middle-of-the-road union membership.

Nobody leads the NUJ. It just develops its own momentum behind favourite causes of the moment, and the outcome is anybody's guess. Among its printing union brothers in the newspaper industry, it is viewed almost paternalistically, based on its innate tendency to ride off in all directions at the same time.

The best people at presenting delegates with a positive approach in the absence of a decisive executive are the far left, who as in almost every union conference are disproportionately represented. They offered the initiative last week in a decision to commit something in excess of £10,000 a week in dispute pay to try to break down a determined management at East Midlands Allied Press. The non-militant delegates fell happily into the move, although on cool reflection they might consider the danger of the union's £250,000

fighting fund being entirely wiped out.

The left also set the pace in the left to take Press Association copy designed for strike-bound newspaper offices, a move that attracted strong moderate support. But again the executive muddled inconclusively.

The executive's advice on both those issues, such as it existed, was flouted, and its only important victory of the week was a vote for future pay curbs narrow though it was.

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balance moves to and fro; this time it has shifted towards the left. In the next year it can safely be expected to appear more militant, but in the end the rank and file in its plodding way will not be pushed too far. A revolt against an executive attempt to spread a BBC Radio Sheffield strike proved that, and the reputation of the executive's ability to gauge the mood of the members was wounded deeply.

Mr Denis MacShane, a BBC sub-editor who was prominent in trying to spread the strike, was ousted as a scapegoat for the collective folly of the executive, and in a rank and file poll lost his place as one of the two broadcasting members. But he bounced back as vice-president in a ballot among conference delegates, which had enough of doing an intensely difficult and thankless job.

Mr Kenneth Morgan, who throughout his general secretaryship has been relentlessly attacked by the highly articulate left, as well as by a good proportion of everybody else, is leaving. Presumably he has had enough of doing an intensely difficult and thankless job.

His farewell shot to his last

NUJ conference before moving to the Press Council was that he had done his best to keep both ends of the union

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## Why the Aberdeen pilots scrambled into the union

The extraordinary fact about the Bristol helicopter pilots strike, now entering its second week at Aberdeen Airport, is that in the briefest space it has turned some 50 well-paid and highly professional men—most were service officers hostile to union organization—into militants, prepared to stand in picket lines and boycott their company into submission.

If the men believe, the aim of the company was to subdue unionism among the pilots based at Aberdeen, it is ironic that the abrupt dismissal of Captain Peter Royston, a Bapta member, and the attitude of Mr Alan Bristow, company chairman, have driven the non-militant bosses, an irresistible force about to meet an immovable object.

The National Joint Council of Civil Air Transport has asked Mr Bean, Secretary of State for Energy, to intervene. Fuel supplies are thought to have run so low that Bristol pilots prepared to work will soon be unable to fly their

ways. It could exacerbate the whole delicate issue of union organization within the offshore oil industry and bring production from a number of platforms to a standstill at phenomenal cost to the country. Naturally, the oil companies and the Department of Energy are greatly concerned. Not least because they see in the pilots, 54 of whom have now been dismissed and must therefore force the issue through Bapta, and in Mr Bristow, the rough and uncompromising boss, an irresistible force about to meet an immovable object.

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### The Times Diary

#### High minds, keeping low profiles

Suddenly, a recognized face crossed the lobby, lips tightly sealed. It was Sir Charles Forte invited to the conference on the ground, no doubt, that he owns the hotel.

The Imperial Hotel is a large, expensive, dark and quiet solemnly peopled in part by elderly residents who lurk in shadowy corners and snooze with enthusiasm. The arrival of 120 of the most influential figures in the capitalist world did almost nothing to ruffle the calm except to litter the lobby with an unduly know of disappointed reporters and cameramen. The only spark of life was from the young members of the diverse kiosk who asked incessantly when Henry Kissinger was going to arrive.

Kissinger eventually turned up two days late. His failure to appear on time was not the only disappointment for the waiting rubber neckers. Margaret Thatcher had cried off, presumably because she needed a lie down after her Far East trip, and before her descent on Grosvenor.

There was Giscard d'Estaing on the guest list, but he turned out to be a different one and anyway he was not coming either. Sir Keith Joseph and Harold Lever, who did turn up, did not have the same glamourous appeal.

Most of the faceless captains of industry had checked in on Thursday night, gone straight to their rooms and stayed there.

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Cheers!

Some of you may have heard me being interviewed on Radio 4 at the weekend along with the director from *The Guardian* and *The Daily Telegraph*. The interviewer, Nigel Radcliffe, was *Lindsey* himself about this column, but he did weigh into





# THE TIMES

## BUSINESS NEWS

FFRE BING  
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e imports,  
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### British pressure for world inflation wins little support pre-summit meetings

By David Blake  
Economics Correspondent  
has effectively become  
in the top secret talks  
log the forthcoming  
meeting in London.

Pressure for new  
measures from balance  
surplus countries  
West has attracted no  
support in recent  
and the whole question  
of world economic re-  
faster is now likely to  
less importance than  
previously.

At the summit meeting,  
held in Downing Street  
on 7 and 8, is likely to  
state much more on  
such as relations with  
countries, energy  
and the financial  
lens of the world.

It will also provide a first  
for President Carter to  
President Giscard  
of France and Chan-  
delier of Helmut Schmidt of West  
Germany.

He has already met  
the Chancellor at a recent meet-  
ing in Washington.

The Americans have been  
during preparatory  
meetings for agreement on a  
new strategy of "global  
economic demand  
management", a singularly long-  
winded phrase for everyone  
to help together to deal with  
economic problems.

The substance behind  
the position has changed  
with the dropping of  
measures by Pres-  
ident Carter.

The dropping of the \$50 tax  
to all is seen as to

understanding pressures on the  
United States, Germany and  
Japan to reflate.

At a meeting early in March,  
in Paris, of the economic policy  
committee of the Organization  
for Economic Cooperation and  
Development the United States  
delegates argued that the  
Germans and Japanese should  
do more to give their economies  
a quick stimulus and pointed  
to the temporary tax rebate as  
a way this could be done with-  
out building a long-term infla-  
tion. Now that the Americans  
have dropped their scheme, they  
are in no position to try to  
push it on anybody else.

The Germans accept that  
they must have a reasonable  
rate of growth around 5 per  
cent, if they are to meet objec-  
tions from countries who worry  
that the German economy is not  
making a big enough contribu-  
tion to help the rest of the  
world.

They also are coming round  
to the view, according to some  
suggestions, that this growth  
must come from domestic  
German demand and that they  
cannot rely on exports.

But they still believe that the  
industrial nations of the West  
ought to aim for a balance of  
payments surplus on their trade  
accounts in order to finance  
exports and capital. They are  
thus not ashamed of being in  
surplus themselves, though in-  
creasingly they accept the need  
to help countries which run into  
financial difficulty.

Because of the need to avoid  
any breakdown at the summit,  
it is likely that Britain will

have to moderate its position  
slightly, thus slimming still  
further any hopes the Govern-  
ment might have had that  
external demand will provide  
the basis for more rapid United  
Kingdom growth.

The summit meeting is likely  
to review progress on providing  
funds to countries in dif-  
ficulties, and will probably  
accept the results of this week's  
meetings of the International  
Monetary Fund in Washington  
and set what can be done to  
help deal with problems  
caused by the need to recycle  
oil.

It will also almost certainly  
show that the Western nations  
have now all but reached a  
common position for their  
forthcoming talks in the  
conference on international economic  
cooperation, or the  
North-South dialogue as it is  
more popularly called, at least  
in the fairly restricted circles  
in which it is discussed at all.  
There will be acceptance of  
something which can be called  
a common commodities fund, to  
finance buffer stocks for com-  
modity agreements.

The West is not prepared to  
give any general rescheduling of  
debts of developing countries,  
but there could be consider-  
ation of individual cases.  
European nations favour a  
special action to help the  
developing countries, possibly  
through putting \$1,000m (nearly  
\$600m) or thereabouts into the  
International Development  
Agency.

Another major topic of con-  
cern to Western leaders at the  
summit is likely to be prospects  
for energy, particularly in the  
light of President Carter's new  
programme.

### Shell pump prices likely to rise by 3p a gallon

By Our Energy Correspondent  
Another round of increases  
in the price of oil products  
including petrol, is expected to  
be announced today by the  
Shell group. Similar announce-  
ments from other oil pro-  
duce suppliers including Esso and  
British Petroleum are  
expected later in the week.

An application by Shell for a  
2.5p a gallon across-the-board  
rise in prices based on higher  
crude oil import costs, was  
accepted by the Price Com-  
mission at the end of last week.

Over the weekend the com-  
pany has been debating how  
the overall increase should be  
divided among the various pro-  
ducts, a process that has been  
made more complicated by the  
Budget increases on petrol and  
oil product taxes.

The new tax on fuel oils has  
lessened the oil companies' com-  
petitiveness with natural  
gas and coal for industrial pur-  
poses and has practically ruled  
out any standstill on petrol  
price increases.

It seems likely there will be  
a fairly even spread of price  
increases across the board with  
a general bearing of 2.5p a  
gallon which with VAT would  
increase pump prices by 3p a  
gallon.

### Workers must give approval for any talks with GEC Parsons pledge on merger

By Roger Vielrose  
Six thousand workers in the  
North-east employed by C. A.  
Parsons and building turbine  
plants for power stations, have  
been given assurances by the  
company that there will be no  
merger talks with the GEC  
group without the approval of  
their union representatives.

Already union leaders have  
told Parsons' management that  
they are bitterly opposed to any  
government solution to the prob-  
lems of the power generation  
industry that would allow GEC  
to take over the C. A. Parsons  
group of the Regnol Parsons  
group.

The assurance was given after  
rumours reached the north-east  
that the Government had  
approved in principle the idea  
of allowing Sir Arnold Weinstock,  
GEC managing director, to merge  
Parsons into GEC's turbine  
generator business.

Under its revised plans for  
the industry, the Government  
would place an order for the  
second stage of the 2,000 mega-  
watt coal-fired power station at  
Drauz with the merged GEC-  
Parsons company, on the under-  
standing that work on the  
contract was undertaken in the  
Parsons plants in the North-east.

Rumours of this solution  
have provoked an angry re-  
sponse from the Parsons unions,  
which still favour the formation  
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## MANAGEMENT

Edited by Rodney Cowton

The fourth in a series of case studies describing the circumstances leading to the loss of a job

## When an employee is driven to leave through victimization

## The case

Vic Moore worked as a lathe operator for W. W. Baxter in Manchester. He had been employed by the company since March, 1969. He received a back injury in July, 1973, and as a result had had between three and six weeks off in each of the subsequent three years. The time off had been taken in separate short periods.

This attendance record had given the company some cause for concern and in January, 1975, the works manager, Mr Stephen Gibbons, had indicated to Mr Moore that "because of your health record the company is not sure whether you will be able to keep your job in the future". No further comments of this sort were made to Mr Moore by the works manager or any other member of the managerial or supervisory staff.

During the period from

### Dismissal and the law

by Geoff Smith

*The characters and the company described are fictitious and do not represent any person or organization in real life*

January, 1975, to October, 1976, Vic Moore felt that his foreman, Mr Eric Richardson had "picked on him" on a number of occasions. Mr Richardson had reported Mr Moore to the works manager for minor infringements of company rules or for other forms of behaviour of which he disapproved.

On one occasion, Mr Moore was two minutes late in returning to his lathe from a tea break. Another time he arrived for work five minutes late and a third complaint concerned four visits to the lavatory one

morning between 8 am and 12 noon.

There were other similar incidents. Vic Moore was usually spoken to in a harsh and peremptory manner by Mr Richardson and on occasions there had been sarcastic remarks about his enthusiasm for the job.

Vic Moore was quite sure from his observations and discussions with fellow employees that he was being treated more harshly than they were. As a result he asked the works manager's secretary repeatedly to arrange an interview with Mr

Richardson to put his case.

On the other hand, an

employer may alter terms and conditions if the contract allows for such changes either expressly in so many words, written or spoken, or implied by statute or custom and practice. An employer may also alter terms and conditions if an employee accepts them either in so many words or goes on working under the new terms without protest.

An act of serious misconduct by the employer allowing the employee to resign and still claim his dismissal rights has become known as constructive dismissal. Also there have been a number of cases where the employer's conduct consists of a number of acts which individually would not justify constructive dismissal, but if taken together accumulate to form a repudiatory breach of the contract by the employer.

In *Fanshaw v. Robbins and Sons*, 1975, Fanshaw, employed as a grinder, complained that acts of victimization by his foreman had led to his resignation.

The foreman had been more severe in dealing with Mr Fanshaw than the other employees and he had reported him for minor infringements of the shop rules. The "last straw" occurred when the foreman inspected Mr Fan-

shaw's machine with "feel

ers". When he found some dirt he accused Mr Fanshaw of not keeping his machine clean.

The foreman was, in the words of the Sheffield tribunal, "anything but sympathetic".

The tribunal concluded that the series of hostile acts by the foreman had led Mr Fanshaw to feel that he could no longer tolerate the treatment he was receiving. It held that Mr Fanshaw's resignation was a dismissal under Schedule 1, of the Trade Union and Labour Relations Act, 1974.

The company, it appears, had merely disputed that Mr Fanshaw had been dismissed, so that when the tribunal found constructive dismissal, it was then found to be automatically unfair.

In our fictional case of Vic

Moore it is evident that there were a number of acts by the employer, comparable in nature to those in the case of *Fanshaw v. Robbins and Sons*, 1975, which could be taken to be a repudiatory breach of the contract of employment by W. W. Baxter.

The author is a member of the academic staff of Ashridge Management College.

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## Europa

Learn about European affairs  
by reading Europa,  
published on the first  
Tuesday of each month  
with The Times.

# WATERFORD GLASS 22nd year of record profits

## Results and Dividends

Profits before tax amounted to £6.75 million, an increase of 43% compared with the previous year.

An increased final dividend of 20% is being recommended which together with the interim dividend of 12% makes a total of 32% compared with 22% last year. This dividend is covered 3.35 times compared with 3.05 times last year.

While inflation has not been fully controlled we are hopeful that the Company will continue to prosper at a rate in excess of that of inflation thus enabling the very conservative dividend policy which has been maintained over the years to be somewhat relaxed in the future.

It is proposed to make a bonus issue of one ordinary share for every three held by shareholders.



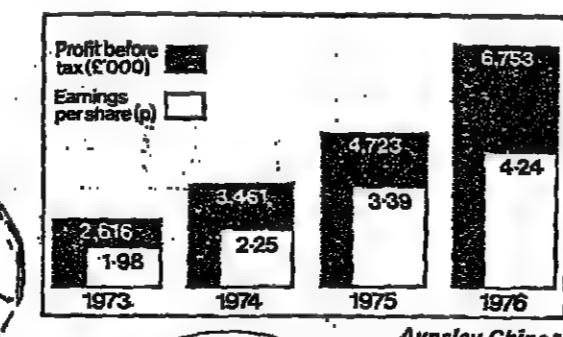
**Switzer Group:**  
In terms of percentage  
growth in turnover and profits,  
the Switzer Group showed by far the highest  
gain of any member company—More vigorous  
marketing and considerable improvements  
within stores contributed to the excellent growth.



**Waterford Crystal:**  
Considerable improvement in sales—  
Margins up—Further increase in sales and  
profits expected.

## The Future

Present indications are that 1977 will see further progress although, as yet, it is too early to identify the extent of this progress, particularly in the retail area where the second half of the year is always more significant.



**Aynsley China:**  
Rate of progress  
in line with  
Waterford Crystal—  
Very hopeful of further  
advance.

**Smith Group:**  
Results satisfactory—New  
Renault models have given great  
encouragement for further progress—  
Retailing and hire purchase showed  
significant contributions—  
Further progress expected in 1977.

Copies of the Report and Accounts may be obtained from the Secretary at Kilbury, Waterford, Ireland.

### Eaton gears up for the European truck market

British and European motor component manufacturers have been forecasting for some time now that major changes in traditional methods of producing commercial vehicles would bring them important new business. But it has taken an American company to put this prophecy to the test with an exciting gamble.

The Eaton Corporation of Cleveland, Ohio, has invested heavily to build a new 350,000 sq ft transmissions plant at St Nazaire on the French Atlantic coast. When it opens its doors in two months time it will inject a new dimension into the economics of European truck manufacture.

St Nazaire will have the capacity to produce 24,000 heavy duty gearboxes annually

and this can be raised to 36,000 without too much trouble. Add to this the 60,000 units which Eaton can already build at its recently expanded Manchester and Basingstoke plants and it will be apparent that this is a full scale assault on Europe by one of the world's leading transmission and axle manufacturers.

The prize is the lion's share of the new business becoming available as the truck makers change to buying transmissions instead of producing them in their own factories. A number of factors are forcing the change—not least the cost savings of purchase from a specialist volume producer and the ability to divert investment to more urgent and rewarding fields.

But the biggest attraction for many must be Eaton's Fuller transmission with its unique twin counter shaft concept. It is lighter, shorter, and lower stressed than conventional designs permitting it to be linked to the higher powered engines in use today and still leave the maximum vehicle length for load carrying.

Since it was first conceived in 1959 over one million Fullers have been built. Indeed, so successful is the Fuller system that Eaton are using it as the basis for the truck industry's first universal heavy duty transmission available and interchangeable worldwide.

When St Nazaire comes on stream in June its Fullers will be interchangeable with those produced in Britain at Manchester and Basingstoke; in the United States at Kalamazoo (Michigan), Shelbyville (Tennessee), Shenandoah (Iowa), and King's Mountain (North Carolina). It is this security of manufacture, breakdowns, and the like, which is very appealing to European truck makers.

But Eaton's president, Paul Miller, is only too well aware that much as they would like to jump on his bandwagon, European truck firms must tread softly if they are not to invite trouble from their unions. With many thousands of jobs still dependent on the manufacture of in-house transmissions, the switch to bought-in components must be carefully timed to allow existing labour to be diverted to alternative work.

For this reason he refuses to talk in detail about the firms who will be taking St Nazaire's output while at the same time insisting that it will all be spoken for before the end of next year.

Under pressure, however, he does admit that Fiat will become a major customer for the new French factory.

Since they arrived in Britain in the early 1960s the Barons may have made a significant impact. Today it is estimated that they hold some 30 per cent of the British heavy truck market and about 20 per cent in Europe as a whole. And although they entered the transmissions market here much later they already claim to hold some 90 per cent of the United Kingdom heavy truck business and 30 per cent of all classifications. To do that they have doubled their business annually for the past three years but, all the same, they are only scratching the surface of what is potentially their biggest European market.

They claim that they are working on transmissions with all the major European truck builders except Mercedes in Germany and Scania in Sweden.

The cloud on the horizon for Eaton could be the automatic gearbox. At present its use is largely restricted to passenger transport vehicles operating in large cities but its adaptation to heavy trucks has been widely forecast.

Mercedes and Iveco, the Italian-German commercial vehicle group led by Fiat, have both announced plans to produce automatic gearboxes. So have GKN, Keen and Nettlefold, Britain's biggest engineering group. Leyland also has a contender through its Coventry based subsidiary Self Changing Gears, which already supplies automatics for most of this country's buses.

Eaton's answer is the Snapper, a gearbox which only uses the clutch for starting and stopping. It costs considerably less than a fully automatic transmission.

Eaton insists that it is toolled up ready to put the Snapper into volume production if demand warrants it. "In other words, we have a well-proven design, all ready to react to any change in truck fashions", says Bob Richards, Eaton vice-president in charge of the truck components group worldwide.

Clifford Webb

### Evidence on status of engineers

From Professor M. J. French Sir, Mr Heathfield (April 18) wonders how long statements about the status of engineers in this country will continue without evidence. The evidence has been around for a long time. For example, in several studies in the United Kingdom, the relative earnings of engineers are much lower than in the countries we compare with. Our failures in international trade are conspicuously in those areas dependent on engineering skill, but not in those where engineers' earnings are higher than average (civil consultancy and chemical engineering).

However, the most striking evidence comes from studies of the wastage of engineers—Jeffries found that the average engineering graduate in his sample worked for only seven years as an engineer, and Singh's findings were similar.

I believe they go to better paid,

more highly thought of, more secure jobs. They can do this because they are, more of them, educated, and above numerate in useful ways, those are salable commodities nowadays, that might be compared with coffee. Desirable that engineers graduates should diffuse other areas, but not in the areas they are doing, and not in pressures that lead to a substantial loss of the most able engineers.

Yours faithfully, MICHAEL FRENCH, Department of Engineering, University of Lancaster, Bailrigg, Lancaster, LA1 4YR. April 18.

group manufacturing (in technology), firms who concentrate on improving the efficiency of machine shops component production and particularly where the range is wide.

To date, the perspective design for all three main groups (big, rural small and "middle way") seems all to be working in different ways and the designers seem to dismiss the design as the other.

Mr Smith is correct in pointing out that TASS is responsible for technology work and also indicate the need to offer a total package to the market. The package should not be the same package as that now used in Detroit or Coventry and our designers should be encouraged to work on projects where the future of vehicle industry lies on new organizational perspectives in line with the needs of overseas customers.

R. W. Shakespeare (*Times*, February 2) covered one such project in which a new British multi-purpose vehicle (Traction) has been designed as a new kind of factory. The motor vehicle industry does not seem to have a mind for such projects and Mr Smith is correct to draw our attention to our failures.

Our engineers are to lead the world again in respect of economic and social perspectives of organization, within which British technology can flourish. We are, after all, supposed to have the advantage of culture in which more than in technology, engineering and design, G. A. B. EDWARDS, Chairman, The Traction Project, Merton, Surrey, April 19.

In the mid-ground are the group assembly firms like Volvo and Saab who are not fundamental but are meeting international and local markets. Also in the mid-ground are the

small firms which were avoided if there were not enough business, together with a proper share of the administrative and internal charges. Further, most freight rates run over main lines which also carry the passenger services which are now approaching viability, that is, the InterCity routes, and are the least subsidised by the taxpayer.

To say that railway assets have no value measured by a cash return on capital investment only is to conveniently forget all the other benefits. No one passenger killed last year on our railways, compared with over 6,000 on the roads, will I hope be condoned by many of us as one of many good returns on capital.

Finally, with the coming of shortage impinging on our minds ever more—no less a person than President Carter the latest to remind us if not roads that need electric railway lines lying on them? Yours sincerely, DAVID R. L. HENRY, "Ivanhoe", Field Hey Lane, Warrington, Merseyside, L64 1TG. April 19.

to "unhang the law" that restricted their growth and to give them every possible support.

An employees' credit union in a firm or factory or several credit unions in a large firm or large factory could be the medium through which industrial democracy might be achieved.

Yours faithfully, E. SAMMONS, Chairman, National Federation of Credit Unions, 10 Amity Grove, London, SW30. April 20.

### Thurgar Bardex Ltd.

The following are salient points from the circulated statement of Mr Anthony B. Tuson, Chairman.

★ Results We made a profit of £135,652 (1975—£76,728) before tax, two-thirds of which was attributable to the second half of the year. Sales have risen from £2,291,586 (1975) to £3,504,041.

★ Dividend A dividend for the year of 6.62p per share (maximum permitted) is recommended.

★ Thurgar Bardex Limited in 1976 invested heavily in new machinery, acquiring six new injection moulding machines ranging from 165 to 800 tonnes, completely redesigning the screen printing section, and further improving our tool room equipment and capabilities. We now have a comprehensive range of the best equipment and a really impressive increase in productive capacity. Sales of our container range have improved satisfactorily and for the first time this has been complemented by substantially increased sales of industrial/technical mouldings.

★ Prospects The first quarter's trading in 1977 confirms the continued improvement in sales and profits which have resulted from our re-equipment and on current indications we anticipate a substantially improved first year.



# Saarland struggles to find replacements for 10,000 steel jobs

West Germany's steelmakers have begun to hope that their industry may at last have started to pull out of the deep recession of the past two-and-a-half years.

New orders for rolled steel finished products rose by 30 per cent in March and topped the two million tonne mark for the first time in eight months.

But no matter how strong the recovery in steel, the long slump will leave scars, nowhere so deep as in West Germany's smallest non-city state—the Saar.

For the crisis in steel has exposed the peculiar structural weaknesses of the Saarland.

While unemployment in West Germany as a whole has declined moderately over the past 12 months, the number of jobless in the Saar reached a post-war record in February. The state's unemployment rate is about 7.2 per cent against 4.8 per cent for the nation as a whole.

Whereas the federal labour office has reported one job vacancy for every four unemployed in West Germany, the ratio of vacancies to jobless in the Saar is one to 14.

Future prospects are grim. Unlike steel groups in other parts of Germany, the local steel concerns have begun a policy of cutting back their labour force through dismissals.

The Neunkircher Eisenwerk, in the eastern part of the state, has already started sacking 500 workers, about a tenth of its labour force.

To the west in Wöllingen, Roetling-Burbach is dismissing a further 1,300 workers.

There is general agreement that if steelmaking is to survive in the Saar, the present small groups must be brought together and rationalized. But in the medium term this would cost jobs.

Herr Werner Klumpp, the Saar's economics minister, calculates that 10,000 jobs in steel must be replaced, but at present there is no indication as to how this can be achieved.

Critics argue that the Saar government over the past 20 years has failed to build a modern industrial structure sufficiently diversified to withstand the periodic slumps in the state's coal and steel industries.

The Saar can point to some successes. At Saarbrücken the German subsidiary of Ford operates a large modern plant with a workforce of 8,000. It increased its workforce last year and is building the Fiesta small car for the German, Swiss and Scandinavian markets.

But the recession showed that many of the companies engaged in such low-risk, low-return work.

As in the case of Ford, ex-

## Regional industry in Europe

aid was used to attract the American Bantex concern to set up a plant producing disc brakes. But this was closed in 1971, only three years after it opened, and at the height of its operations had employed only a third of the targeted 2,000-strong labour force. This example was repeated many times, during the recession.

The German trade union movement has accused the Saar government of adopting an active investment policy only after the coal crisis of the 1950s. They argue that in the boom years of the late 1950s and early 1960s, when other regions in Germany diversified their industrial bases, opportunities were squandered.

The government of that time has been accused of yielding to pressure from the old established iron and steel industry not to develop the Saar. The trade unions say that the steel industry was opposed to the setting of new industries as increased competition on the labour market would have pushed up wages.

At 27,560, the number of unemployed in February was in absolute terms a new postwar record. The Chamber of Industry and Trade expects that the deficit of jobs will increase to 39,000 by 1980 and 56,000 by 1985.

A continuing high unemployment rate and large-scale emigration would appear to be the inevitable consequence of the economic outlook, although the Government has energetically disputed a forecast from the Swiss Prognos economic research institute that about 32,000 people will leave the state in the next 10 years, reducing its overall population by a ninth.

The Saar Government is now looking to Bonn for assistance to help pull out of its misery. Although federal and state government spending of DM 450m (£112m) in the period to 1980 is envisaged under the government's multi-year investment programme, the Saar would like DM 500m to DM 600m aid.

The chances of its receiving such an amount of sum from Bonn may be slim, although Dr Hans Friedrichs, the West German economics minister, has declared that the Saar will be given a special deal.

But the recession showed that many of the companies engaged in such low-risk, low-return work.

As in the case of Ford, ex-

Peter Norman

## Gatt warning on farm price snags

Geneva, April 24.—Protracted negotiations to free the flow of world trade will be impeded unless bargaining on farm products speeds up, the organizers of talks between 97 rich and poor countries said today.

The warning appeared in a report by the secretary of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade reviewing the activities of the 83-member body in 1976.

"A concerted effort would be needed in the coming months," it said, "to move the agricultural negotiations ahead more rapidly if they were not to hamper successful conclusion of the Tokyo round as a whole."

The negotiations were formally launched under Gatt auspices in Tokyo in 1973, but substantive talks began in Geneva only in 1975. These dragged on beyond their original deadline, and now seem unlikely to meet a subsequent target of concluding them in 1977.

They are aimed at expanding world commerce in industrial and agricultural productivity by reducing tariffs and dismantling other trade barriers. A procedural dispute between the United States and the EEC

It added that in 1976 some

of the seven negotiating groups dealing with various sectors of the bargaining "moved beyond examination of the various issues at stake to line-by-line negotiations on draft agreements."

The report noted that the negotiations last year brought their first concrete results, with industrialized countries giving trade concessions on a wide range of tropical products from developing states.

Reviewing world commerce generally, the report said: "International trade took a marked turn for the better in 1976, recovering quite sharply from the setback in the previous year, when it had suffered its first significant reduction in volume since the Second World War."

It remains true to say, however, that most of the difficult political choices lie ahead. In some instances, agriculture being outstanding among them, no agreed basis for negotiations has yet been reached.

"Progress in 1977 will demand a determined and concerted effort—and some fresh thinking—by the participating countries. It is to be hoped that they will be helped in this by the gradual improvement in the economic climate."

It added that in 1976 some

## Saudi crude surplus adds to spot glut

New York, April 24. There is an abundant supply of Middle East and African crude oil on the spot market for the short-term, but buyers are scarce because of the seasonal lull in demand and swollen crude inventories. Petroleum Intelligence Weekly says.

The surplus has been heightened by recent offers of additional volumes of low-priced Saudi crude from some of the United States partners in Aramco, according to PIW sources.

This surplus is hitting the upper-tier Opec crude, the hardest, particularly the high-sulphur Middle East grades. A lag in American buying has also depressed demand for lower sulphur African crudes.

PIW says the "extra" Saudi crude primarily is made available to refiner buyers that expressed interest in taking higher priced Iranian, Libyan or Nigerian crudes, while also having a "need" for Saudi oil.

The sellers carefully avoid all references to "package deals", though final transactions unquestionably involve anywhere from two barrels of upper-tier crude per barrel of Saudi down to a straight one-to-one ration, PIW says.

Several hundred thousand barrels a day of Saudi crude appear to be for sale over the second quarter, and possibly into the third. —AP-Dow Jones.

tobacco would be a top foreign exchange-earner, second only to mineral exports.

He also noted that before Rhodesia's rebellion, Britain spent \$126m (nearly £750,000) a year on Rhodesian tobacco imports which had since been replaced by supplies from other nations, mainly America, Malawi and Tanzania.

He estimated that last year Rhodesia exported about 80,000 tons of tobacco, despite United Nations trade sanctions.

However, Rhodesia was now concerned about the future of the industry because the recent military draft had reduced the number of workers available to harvest the crop, and because rail and road communications had been disrupted inside and outside the landlocked country, Mr Haresnape said.

In addition, the United Nations sanction committee had advised member states not to trade with three Geneva-based companies believed to have facilitated exports of a large portion of Rhodesia's tobacco in recent years.

He noted that since the United Nations embargo six countries—Argentina, Brazil, Malawi, Tanzania, Thailand, and South Korea—had increased total flue-cured tobacco production from less than 300,000 tons in 1966 to more than 600,000 tons in 1975, increasing exports 30-fold during that period. —Reuter

tobacco would be a top foreign exchange-earner, second only to mineral exports.

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The Times Special Reports.

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THE TIMES

The president of one of the oldest well established Saudi companies from Ryad with branch offices in Al Khobar and Jeddah is visiting London Feb. 17th-24th, and would like to have discussions with companies dealing in food products, pharmaceuticals, chemicals, domestic appliances, electrical and electronic products, ready-made garments, shoes, transport, insurance, automobiles, surgical products, hospital equipment, disposables, construction of buildings, roads, bridges, construction and building materials, shipping, insurance, iron and steel, machinery, ferrous and non-ferrous, crockery, cutlery, metals, laboratory products and equipment, along with other products that any manufacturer can supply from the U.K.

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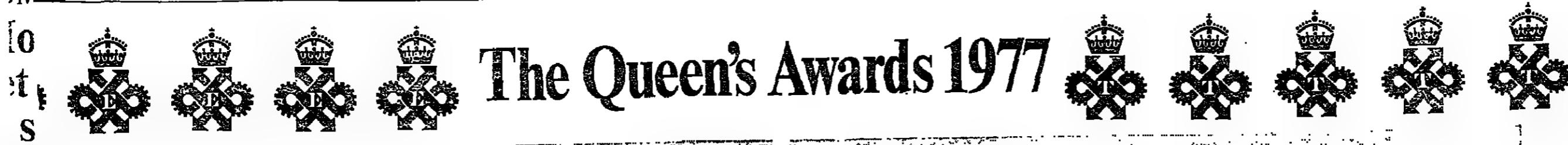
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The telephone started ringing for the advertiser at 9.30 the morning this advertisement appeared. When the President of the company arrived from Saudi, his replies had already been received for him to process. He was delighted and will certainly use "Business to Business" again.

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## The Queen's Awards 1977

Carreras Rothmans Limited are proud to have been honoured  
with the Queen's Award for Export Achievement.

The Award Citation notes the fact that Carreras Rothmans are Britain's largest exporters of cigarettes. Last year alone, the Company's exports to 162 countries around the world earned the United Kingdom some £135 million in foreign exchange.

In order to meet ever increasing export demand, which takes up well over half our total production, the Company has recently opened its fourth factory in the UK, in Darlington, which will create 1,000 new jobs.

To all 5,500 Carreras Rothmans employees whose hard work has made this public recognition possible, and to our distributors and agents right around the world, the Company would like to say a heartfelt "well done".

As is well known, the globe is the background to our Company symbol. The Queen's Award for Export Achievement shows that its presence there is no accident.

## SCOTTISH NORTHERN INVESTMENT TRUST LIMITED

### SUMMARY OF RESULTS

	Year to 5th February 1977	1976	% Change
Investments at Valuation*	£44,776,543	£44,340,550	+ 0.98
Total Assets less Current Liabilities	£45,647,724	£44,783,119	+ 1.93
Ordinary 25p shares in Issue	35,161,219	35,161,219	-
Asset Value per Share	98.50p	97.12p	+ 1.42
Revenue Available for Ordinary Shareholders	£1,047,674	£788,712	+ 22.84
Earned per Ordinary Share	2.98p	2.24p	+ 33.04
Ordinary Dividend rate (net)	2.80p	2.3125p	+ 21.08

\*Heritable Properties included at cost.

- The Annual General Meeting will be held on 17th May, 1977 and warrants in respect of the final dividend of 1.9875p per share, if approved, will be posted on 17th May.
- The policy of the Company is to provide shareholders with a balance between protection of capital value and growth in income through diversification of investment, both industrially and geographically, by successful participation in the recognised and well tried investment areas but also by committing part of our funds to less well known investments where we judge growth prospects to exist.
- Earnings per share have increased by 33 per cent from 2.24p to 2.98p and the total dividend for the year of 2.80p represents a 21 per cent increase over last year's payment.
- During the year we decided that our overall exposure to the somewhat unpredictable dollar premium was too high and, at the same time, we formed the view that the recovery prospects in the U.K. Stock Market were better than in the U.S.A. and Canada. The dollar premium exposure was reduced by arranging Euro-dollar loan to finance part of our existing dollar portfolio and by repositioning premium funds for reinvestment in this country.
- We have published a list of those companies where we hold five per cent of the voting capital as against ten per cent in previous years.
- Our estimates for the current year suggest that it should be possible to increase the total dividend again. The interim dividend payable on 5th November will be increased from 0.8125p to 1.2p to reduce the disparity between it and the final dividend.

#### DIRECTORS

R. J. C. Fleming (Chairman)  
Calum A. MacLeod Iain Tenant  
Kenneth Walton J. A. Yeoman

REGISTERED OFFICE  
Investment House, 6 Union Row, Aberdeen AB9 3DQ

## FINANCIAL NEWS

# Hoare, Govett's continuous line of research

Each week, this column examines the latest analysis from brokers' research offices. But how is this research organized? What is its method, its philosophy? Over the forthcoming months, various broking research department heads will be invited to discuss their modus operandi.

Mr Roy Peters of Hoare, Govett opens this occasional series.

Broking, if the market's performance is any guide, can be a very volatile, insecure business. But, in many ways, the key to Hoare, Govett's research strategy is continuity.

### Brokers' views

Mr Roy Peters heads Hoare's research staff of 21. United Kingdom analysts, six overseas researchers and an economist and has inherited a department set up by Mr Graham Bleese 13 years ago.

Mr Bleese's aim of increasing the size of the research team worked very well until 1974 by which time Hoare had realized that its heavy involvement in European analysis was premature and could not be justified, particularly when the United Kingdom stock market was in a severe recession, and staffing was cut back by natural wastage.

But "research is a continuous thing", Mr Peters says, "you can't just turn it on or off". He concedes that Hoare has, in the past, been something of a



Mr Roy Peters who leads Hoare, Govett's UK research staff.

finishing school for other brokers

houses

It takes up to two years to train a recruit before he's any good", he maintains, "and generally longer to acquire experience and to build up industrial contacts which takes you out of the market cycle". He believes that analysis has become much more concentrated and, although newcomers largely have an industrial background, the gap between junior and experienced staff is widening. Hence, Hoare's recent de-

termination to retain analysts, presumably something of a problem in an era of pay restraint.

Nor is there any attempt to switch an analyst's sphere of research when a certain sector, or is expected to speak out loud and clear when the firm has something to say.

Hoare is proud of its reputation as a general broker. "People can come and get a view of most stocks", Mr Peters claims, and its research covers about 85 per cent of the market by capitalization and certainly all the major sectors.

But at the same time, the firm must meet the more complex demands of its clients and Hoare's answer is to specialize by meeting the range of an institution, rather than looking only at selected sectors.

Mr Peters is quick to point out the merits of this policy.

At a start, "we don't have all our eggs in one basket" and, importantly, Hoare can better view "the advantages of sectors and different shares", he says, which means, the firm can "better objectivity" than which research solely certain sectors. The research maintains, is a "reputable integrity with institutions".

The rewards can also be more tangible. Hoare has a healthy number of two and three per cent Cazenove in its volume of issue business and Mr Peters regards his department as a "valuable weapon" for the firm in this respect. The firm, he says, stands, have very little issue business.

Two years ago, Hoare's issue department was "well off its feet" and the research staff were heavily involved. Peters believes that each department should have "two or three good years out of four". If research is becoming more specialized, the firm is convinced that it is now as important than ever to take a right overall market decision rather than to get an individual stock right.

Ray Mangan

## Marks, Vickers, big contractors report

The following companies are reporting this week:

**MONDAY**—Interims: — Fundinvest, Fosters, Fuso Estates (to consider additional dividend), Silverthorne and Tyack (WA) and Co. Finals: — Baird (Wm) and Co., BSC International, British Inv. Tr., Brooks, Watson, Christie's International, Hawker Morris, Jersey Elec, Laing (John) and Son, Manders (Hedges), Silhouette (London) and Simon Eng.

**TUESDAY**—Interims: — Atlanta, Baltimore and Chicago Regional Invest. Ist, MY Dart, Newman Granger Ind, Spencer Gears and Unichrome Internationals. Finals: — Belgrave (Blackheath), Bodycote Internat., Davies and Newman Hedges, Ellis and Goldstein (Edgware), Fairbairn Lawson, Farnell Electronics, FC Finance, Hedges (John), Hopkins, Hopkinson, Richards and Wallington (London), Keady (London), Marks and Spencer, Sh

Nurdin and Peacock, Petrowin, St Aubyn Spillers, Thommac, Telephone Rentals, Thomas T-Line Caravans and Wright Construction.

### Results

**THURSDAY**—Interims: — Anglo Scottish Inv, British Assets Inv, Chartered Finance Hedges, Hoover (first quarter), Howden Grp, Lockwood Foods, McKechnie Brothers, Peak Inv, Safeguard Industrial Inv and Simpson (S.). Boral, Thil and Wokram, Berger Jenson and Nicholson, British Vending Industries, Burrell and Co., Gervard and National Discount, Parnell, Helens Sons, Haden Carter, Helene of London, Henderson (P. C.), Head Inv, Marks and Spencer, Sh

struction Hedges, Cullen's Stores, Heworth (J.) and Son and Highland Electronics Finals: — Albion Hedges, Future Hedges, Gill and Duffus, Hammerton Property and Inv. Ist, Hay (Norman), Lyle Shipping, Raglan Prop and Wharman Reeve Angel.

## UK lagging in BSR's quick march

From BSR

"Monarch" record changer and "Swan Brand" electrical kitchen equipment maker comes a note of anti-climax. Abroad it continues to go from strength to strength, but at home the outlook is misty, and recent acquisitions will take time to contribute.

Early last March it reported record profits and a dividend freezing rights issue; and almost at once went on a spree that included an agreed bid for Judge International which has recently been losing money but now plans to stop doing so: a few days ago it also reported the takeover of a Canadian group, Keron with the brand name, Musimair, which becomes part of the sound reproduction division.

Now Mr J. N. Ferguson, chairman, reports that both groups should contribute usefully to group profits. The snag is that he adds that they will do so "in the next year or two".

At home group orders in the sound reproduction division are still running lower than the year before. For overseas the chairman is cheerful though he does not mention the way the pound has stopped sliding. He is pleased to say, however, that orders from the main markets abroad in sound reproduction are satisfactory.

Recent economic indicators of consumer demand in the United States and forecasts for them are encouraging.

The first model of the new line of player units has been extremely well received by customers in North America and the United Kingdom, and the directors expect output schedules will have to be boosted a lot by the middle of the year.

The crystal glass people, Waterford Glass, who also have interests in English China, though John Aynsley besides the Switzer department store and the Smith motor distribution group may be about to pay a lot more from fast growing profits.

In his annual statement Senator Patrick W. McGrath says that he and his colleagues think that the Republic of Ireland is once again growing economically so that Waterford will itself probably continue to grow faster than inflation.

The group booted profits by 43 per cent to £6.7m last year, or faster than sales, and the dividend jumped ten points to 32½ per cent.

But it is now covered 3.5 times by earnings "thus enabling the very conservative dividend policy which has been maintained over the years to be somewhat relaxed".

But with this plan comes the warning that dividend cover must stay flat to plough back enough for expansion. However Waterford's crystal has no big plans in hand at present, though Aynsley has, indeed this subsidiary could make acquisitions.

Waterford is also budgeting for a further increase in sales and profits after doing both and widening margins last year.

Aynsley did just as well, and new lines, some already in production, should spearhead a further advance this year.

The outlook is also good for Smith which is doing well from new Renault models, in garages and hire purchases. So far the gain goes to Switzer in terms of growth for both sales and earnings.

### Business appointments

## Two more directors for Bank of New South Wales

Sir Robert Norman, retiring chief manager of Bank of New South Wales, and Mr R. J. White, his successor, have been made directors.

Mr A. C. Durie has become a director of James Walker, Goldsmiths and Silversmiths.

Mr J. A. Beard becomes a director of Fulton Packhouse.

Mr John Bennett has been elected president of the Contractors Association.

Mr E. H. Hepworth has become a director of Harrison of Birmingham and a director of Birmingham Finishing Company, in the McKechnie Group.

## SUN ALLIANCE & LONDON INSURANCE GROUP

### Highlights from the Statement by the Chairman - Lord Aldington

Despite the increase in the Group's profits for 1976, the underwriting result is disappointing. A combination of unusual storm damage in the first two months followed by intense drought conditions has produced results which cannot be absorbed by a single year's underwriting.

The substantial loss on our Home Personal Account, due almost entirely to subsidence claims caused by the exceptionally dry summer, has been responsible for the overall underwriting loss. Although further subsidence claims are expected, action has already been taken to reduce significantly the impact of their cost on the Group's results in 1977. A useful underwriting profit was earned on the remainder of our Home business.

There have been improved results from a number of overseas areas including the USA where the loss has been reduced.

#### Home Fire

Opportunities for real expansion have been limited by the lack of industrial development and there has been intense competition for business, particularly from overseas insurers. In spite of the storm damage in January and a marked increase in other losses a satisfactory surplus has been earned.

#### Home Accident

Although there are now some encouraging signs of improvement in a number of classes this account was again in deficit.

#### Home Motor

The application of rate increases and action to improve the quality of the portfolio have brought this account into profit. Further increases in premium levels are inevitable to meet the higher cost of repairs and compensation awards.

#### Home Personal

In addition to subsidence claims, for which payments and outstanding estimates amount to £13.6m, the January storms brought net claims of £2m while buildings and contents claims costs have increased sharply. Our efforts to reduce under-insurance are meeting with some success but there are still too many cases which cause problems for us and disappointment to our customers.

#### Engineering

In spite of the increase in repair costs and expenses there has been a return to profitability by the National Union after the loss sustained in 1975.

#### Life

Our programme to establish fourteen specialist Life branches in the United Kingdom was completed and, together with our Composite branches, they produced a record volume of new business. The first annual bonus declaration of the Life Fund of Sun Alliance and London Assurance Co. Ltd. was made as at 31st December 1976. Of the distributable surplus for the year of £12.4m, 30% has been allocated to policy holders. The contribution to Profit and Loss was £2.096,000 compared with £1.577,000 in 1975.

Although we have made good headway in approaching those who have pension schemes with us, in connection with the latest State Scheme, progress in obtaining the vital decisions is slow and there are clear signs that there will be difficulties towards the end of 1977 with intense pressure to complete the formalities for those schemes to be contracted out in April 1978.

#### Reinsurance

The results are presented one year in arrears for the larger part of the account and by comparison with 1974, Fire business showed a much improved result but there was a deterioration in the Accident Account. Overall there has been an increase in the profit earned.

### Summary of Results

	1976	1975
Premium Income—Fire, Accident and Marine	425,126	348,233
Underwriting Transfers		
Fire and Accident	-11,019	-454
Marine, Aviation and Transport		
Long-term Insurance Profits	2,139	1,588
Investment Income	46,709	34,408
Other Income, including Trustee Fees	138	179
Less Losses on Stock Interest	37,967	35,721
Profit Before Taxation	37,836	35,582
Less U.K. and Overseas Taxation	15,931	15,880
Profit After Taxation	21,905	19,702
Less Minority Interests	142	178
Profit Attributable to Shareholders	21,763	19,524
Cost of Dividends	8,896	8,038
Profit Retained	12,867	11,436
Earnings per Share	44.1p	42.98p

The Annual General Meeting of Sun Alliance and London Insurance Limited will be held on 18th May 1977 at the Head Office, Bartholomew Lane, London EC2N 2AR.

### Conclusion

Insurance companies exist to provide help when the unexpected happens. We must not complain because the short summer for more than two centuries has caused unusually heavy claims. But these heavy losses serve to emphasize the need in good years for substantial additions to reserves from adequate profits to meet the cost of catastrophes can be met.

Our staff all over the world have worked loyalty and well throughout the year and I thank them. They have tackled their problems with much efficiency. They will understand that an insurance business may have down as well as up, and they understand too how to restore an account to profit.

Finally I record my appreciation of the leadership given by Mr Greenwood as Chief General Manager. Happily he will remain a member of the Board and we share his confidence in Mr Bowler who succeeds him.





### Stock Exchange Prices

## Capitalization and week's change

Barrel Dealings Begin Today, Dealings End, May 6. & Contango Day, May 9. Settlement Day, May 11.

Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days. (Forward contracts in issue for the stock quoted)

(Current market price multiplied by the number of shares in issue for the stock quoted)

# Local Government, Public & Educational Appointments

## DUNCAN OF JORDANSTONE COLLEGE OF ART AND THE UNIVERSITY OF DUNDEE POST OF DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF TOWN AND REGIONAL PLANNING

Applications are invited for the post of Director of the Department of Town and Regional Planning, which, together with the Department of Architecture in the College and the Department of Geography in the University, comprise the University Faculty of Environmental Studies. The four-year undergraduate course in Planning is fully recognised by the RIBA and is the subject of honours degree awards by the University. The successful candidate will be required to take charge of the course and applicants should be members of the Royal Town Planning Institute and hold a degree or diploma in Town Planning. Permission to engage in private practice is granted to members of College staff and the post carries a salary of £1,180 per annum. Further particulars, and forms of application may be obtained from the SECRETARY, Duncan of Jordanstone College of Art, Perth Road, Dundee DD1 4HT. (Telephone 22361, Ext. 6), to whom completed applications should be returned before 31st May, 1977.

### University of Southampton DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL POLICY ADMINISTRATION

### SOCIAL WORK IN GENERAL PRACTICE

Applications are invited from professionally qualified workers for the post of Student Union Officer in the Department of Social Policy and Administration. The post will be for two years in the first instance. The post is concerned with the delivery of social work in general practice. The post holder will be required to work in close collaboration with two groups of clients: the elderly and the disabled. There will also be some research and training responsibilities. Salary scale £1,000-£1,180 per annum. An appointment would be for one year, with the possibility of renewal. Further particulars may be obtained from Mr. G. C. Smith, University of Southampton, Southampton SO9 4JF. To whom applications 17 May, 1977. Please quote Ref: 77/704/4.

### UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD CAREERS ADVISOR

Applications are invited for the post of Careers Advisor to the University of Oxford. The post is for two years in the first instance. The post holder will be responsible for the delivery of careers guidance and advice to students and graduates to help them decide on their future career direction. It also includes developing and maintaining a careers information and guidance service. The post holder will be required to maintain close contact with the University's staff and with the University's students.

The position is open to Graduates in any subject. The preferred age is 25-30, but an appointment would be for one year. Further particulars may be obtained from Mr. G. C. Smith, University of Southampton, Southampton SO9 4JF. To whom applications 17 May, 1977. Please quote Ref: 77/704/4.

All recruitment advertisements on this page are open to both male and female applicants.

## Secretarial and Non-secretarial Appointments

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### nine eleven personnel

#### OUT & ABOUT RECEPTIONIST

Kensington City Agency need an experienced Receptionist for the above position. The job includes making clients to their appointments and 8000 calls a day.

#### SALES PERSONNEL

The British Genius Exhibitions Ltd., 100, Portland Place, W.1, require a Director, Sales and Marketing, to work with our clients in the exhibition and exhibition stand business. Sales or exhibition experience and advantage. Tel: 01-228 1041.

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#### CHURCHILL PERSONNEL Admiral House, White Rd., S.W.1

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Small expensive gift company needs ambitious, energetic, resourceful, humorous, pleasant girl to work with us. Hours 9.30-12.30, 1.30-4.30. Sales or exhibition experience and advantage. Tel: 01-228 1041.

#### BOOK-KEEPER—TO £3,600

Top Co., a leader in its field, has vacancy for experienced m/f. Any age welcome. Generous benefits. Tel: 01-228 0661.

#### COLEFAX & FOWLER

Small office, 20,000 sq. ft. for 300+, with at least two years' decorating experience. Duties include: general office, shop, ability to type, get on well with clients, and late night work. Standard 45-hour week, plus overtime. £5,000 + comm. Usual for unusual details to Box 10077 J. The Times.

#### FINE ART-DEALERS

£2,500 neg. Responsibilities: telephone, fax, letter, file, mail, type, good appearance and education for someone around 23. SECRETARIAL OR BONDY ST. Tel: 01-629 5669 01-629 7263.

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Some personnel work involved in this varied, interesting, responsible post. Duties to do with the Press and staff, initiate and maintain public relations, etc. £2,400. Tel: 01-629 5669 01-629 7263.

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#### EXPERIENCED RECEPTIONIST

£2,500—Experienced Receptionist required for busy office, 1000 calls a day. Duties: answer telephone, file, type, etc. Tel: 01-629 5669 01-629 7263.

#### COOKING POTS

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£2,500—A unique opportunity for a friendly, experienced interviewer to work in a well-known restaurant. Tel: 01-629 5669 01-629 7263.

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#### CAPTIVATING PERSONALITY

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### PA/ADMIN/OFFICE MANAGER/ESS

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Nice, Andi/Clerical job at the Kent Street office of an international company for an experienced and capable person to do a full range of work, including shorthand, dictation, reading, and all kinds of correspondence. Standard 45-hour week, plus overtime. £5,000 + comm. Usual for unusual details to Box 10077 J. The Times.

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### INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL MARKETING AND PUBLISHING CONSULTANCY W.I.

## HAMPSHIRE POLICE AUTHORITY CHIEF CONSTABLE

£12,543-£13,425

Applications are invited from serving Police Officers for the post of Chief Constable of Hampshire, which will become vacant on 27th June, 1977, on the retirement of Sir Douglas Osmond, C.B.E., Q.P.M. The Police Area has a population of 1.8 million and covers the 1,600 square miles of the counties of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight.

The Force has 12 divisions (including Headquarters and Traffic) and an authorised strength of 2,956 officers and 863 civilians.

Conditions of Service include a rent allowance of up to £1,108 per annum and an official car will be provided. Removal expenses will be paid.

Applications may be obtained from the undersigned and must be returned by 12th May, 1977. Telephone enquiries to: Winchster 4411, Ext. 208. L. K. Robinson, Esq., Clerk of the Police Authority, The Castle, Winchester, Hampshire SO2 2AU.

Further information and application forms from:

## CENTRE FOR INFORMATION ON LANGUAGE TEACHING AND RESEARCH

(maintained by grants from the Department of Education & Science, the Scottish Education Department and the Department of Education, Northern Ireland)

### DIRECTOR

Applications are invited for this post which will become vacant from January, 1978, on the retirement of the present holder.

Salary within range £9,028-£10,753

Further information and application forms from:

THE DIRECTOR, C.I.L.T.  
20 CARLTON HOUSE TERRACE, LONDON, SW1Y 5AP.

Closing date for applications: 30 May

### University of Bristol SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

### RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP

Applications are invited for one or two permanent Research Fellow posts in the Research Unit. Applicants should have an interest in one or more branches of educational psychology and in statistical methods and research design in the social sciences. They should possess research experience and a record of working on a funded research project and must be writing to undertake research to Master's degree level.

As the previous Head has resigned because of ill health, the Government are anxious to make an early appointment as possible for September 1977. There are 263 posts in the

University. Details of the Research Fellow posts in the Research Unit. Applications should be submitted to the Head of the Research Unit, University of Bristol, Bristol, BS8 1TL.

Salary range will be £9,110 to £10,625 per annum, starting according to age qualifications. The appointment is for one year, or as soon after as possible.

Applications, giving details of qualifications, experience and names of three referees, should be sent by 15th May, 1977, to the Secretary, University of Bristol, School of Education, Bristol, BS8 1TL, or to the Head of the Research Unit, University of Bristol, Bristol, BS8 1TL.

Further information and application forms from:

THE DIRECTOR, C.I.L.T.  
20 CARLTON HOUSE TERRACE, LONDON, SW1Y 5AP.

Closing date for applications: 30 May

### St. Mary's School Wantage, Oxon.

### HEADSHIP

Applications are invited for the Headship of this independent girls' boarding school founded in 1870. Applicants should be graduates, should have good general teaching and administrative experience and be communicant members of the Church of England.

As the previous Head has resigned because of ill health, the Government are anxious to make an early appointment as possible for September 1977. There are 263 posts in the

University. Details of the Headship posts in the Research Unit. Applications should be submitted to the Head of the Research Unit, University of Bristol, Bristol, BS8 1TL.

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Further information and application forms from:

THE DIRECTOR, C.I.L.T.  
20 CARLTON HOUSE TERRACE, LONDON, SW1Y 5AP.

Closing date for applications: 30 May

### Rothamsted Experimental Station BAMFORD, HERTS, AL9 2JQ

### LECTURER IN ENGINEERING MATHEMATICS

to be responsible for:

1. the analysis of experiments in design and

2. collaborating in the design

of experiments.

He will also be responsible for the teaching of Mathematics and Statistics, and for the supervision of research students in the field of Engineering Mathematics. The post holder will be required to take charge of the Rothamsted Experimental Station, and to be responsible for the delivery of courses in Engineering Mathematics, and for the supervision of research students in the field of Engineering Mathematics.

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he servants of his, that  
both small and great".—Revels  
Book 19. 3.

## BIRTHS

BLANCHARD.—On April 23rd at  
Estate Infirmary, Edinburgh,  
Dr. Charles Mayne Smith, and  
Mrs. Charles Christopher, a  
daughter for Irene.

BUCKLAND-WRIGHT.—On April  
23rd at St. John's Hospital, 100  
High Holborn, to Rosalin (neé  
Buckland) and Christopher—a  
daughter for Irene.

CAMERON.—On April 23rd at  
St. George's Hospital, Tooting,  
Dr. John Cameron and  
Mrs. John Cameron, a  
daughter for John.

CUTTER.—On April 23rd at  
Savannah Hospital, Marlowe,  
Dr. John Cuttler and  
Mrs. John Cuttler, a  
daughter for John.

DAVIES.—On April 23rd at  
Kingsgate, Canterbury, to Peter  
and Carol (née Laughland) and  
David.

FITZGERALD.—On April 23rd at  
St. George's Hospital, Tooting,  
Dr. John and Mrs. John  
Fitzgerald, a daughter for  
John.

LANKESTER.—On April 19th, 1977,  
at St. George's Hospital, Tooting,  
Dr. John and Mrs. John  
Lankester, a daughter for  
John.

LEWIS.—On April 23rd at  
Dunlop Hospital, and Jack  
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